

THE WESTERN FARM LEADER

CO-OPERATION

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FARMERS DEBATE QUESTION OF POLITICAL ACTION

Propose Wheat Board Be Sole Marketing Agency

WHEAT PRODUCERS GIVE EVIDENCE AT MARKETING PROBE

Growers' Co-operative Solution of
Farm Problem, States
John Evans

PRODUCERS' PLIGHT

No Single Expert Has Advanced
Theory Wheat Pools Caused
Price Decline

SASKATOON, Sask.—The Turgeon Commission, inquiring into "the production, buying, selling, holding, storing, transporting and exporting of Canadian grains and grain products and other questions incident to such matters," held its sessions in Saskatoon during the past week, moving to the Saskatchewan city from Winnipeg on the 10th of December.

Saskatoon is the second city in Saskatchewan, the greatest wheat producing Province in the world, and the commission heard some opinions from the wheat producers themselves—a decided change from the learned discourses of professors, economists, statisticians and technical men of various descriptions.

John Evans, once Progressive M.P. for Saskatoon and for forty years a farmer in Saskatchewan, said the solution of the farm problem was a growers' co-operative, and intimated that the wheat producers should be free to barter their wheat for goods and suggested that the Canadian millers should not be allowed to take the cream of Canadian high protein wheat leaving a poor quality for export.

Planned Production

John McNaughton suggested that the demand for Canadian farm produce was limited and consequently a program of planned production should be developed and a fixed price of \$1.35 for wheat sold on the market should be put into effect.

John W. Hair, ex-mayor of Saskatoon, expressed the view that a Federal subsidy to the wheat producers on the prairies was just as reasonable as the tariff on goods imported into Canada.

Other farmers depicted the plight of wheat producers in Saskatchewan, where prevailing wheat prices much below the cost of production have spelled ruin to the farm population.

Would Make Sole Agency

William W. Caswell spoke for the Citizens' Wheat Board and Price League and proposed that the Canadian Wheat Board should be the sole marketing agency for the wheat crop. He suggested that in the alternative producers should have the choice of marketing through the Board or through the exchange, but in such a case the Board should fix
(Continued on page 13)

Pope Suffers Relapse

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 16th.—The Pope today is suffering from a relapse of the partial paralysis and other ailments which attacked him ten days ago. His age, 79 years, increases the danger of his condition.

International Armies Fight in Spain

LONDON, Dec. 16th.—It is stated here that some 12,000 German Nazis, 6,000 Italian Fascists, in addition to the army of Moors are fighting in Spain for the rebels, and that 20,000 Russians and 8,000 or more French and German volunteers have gone to the support of the Government forces; Ralph Fox, well known British writer, commands an all-British company. A squad of Russian aeroplanes, lately arrived in Spain, are said to be greatly superior to those of the opposing Nazis and Fascists.

UNEMPLOYED PARADE

Traffic on Eighth Avenue, Calgary, was held up for over an hour on Wednesday by a parade of unemployed.

Autogyro Inventor Killed



Juan de la Cierva, inventor of the autogyro, who was among the 14 persons killed on December 9th when a Dutch airliner crashed and burned near Croydon aerodrome, four minutes after taking off for Amsterdam.

CUT IN TARIFF ON BRITISH IMPORTS BEING DISCUSSED

Ottawa Negotiations Continue with
British Government—Canadian
Authorities Hopeful

FINANCIAL PARLEY

Royal Commission to Study
Problems of Prairie West
May Be Set Up

By WILFRID EGGLESTON

Special to The Western Farm Leader

OTTAWA, Dec. 16th.—Negotiations with the British Government for a renewal of the Trade Agreement continue. Reductions in a broad range of British imports have already been discussed by the Cabinet, it is reported.

There is a threat of duties on Canadian meats and other farm products, but in view of the limited tariffs applied against Argentina, in the trade agreement recently signed with Britain, Canadian authorities are hopeful that these can be warded off, provided Canada's offers of tariff reduction are fairly substantial. No duties on Canadian wheat are anticipated. The quota on British imports of Canadian pig products may be reduced.

Special Markets Branch

A special markets branch of the Department of Agriculture is to be set up, with attention given the British and United States markets in particular. The Agricultural authorities see no reason why a steady market of upwards of 100,000 head cannot be maintained overseas. This, coupled with a continuation of the present quota into the United States, would materially assist the livestock prospect, it is said.

The financial conference last week at Ottawa accomplished no major result, but some useful discussions on minor matters were held. Better co-ordination in loans, greater use of the Bank of Canada, abolition of the gold clause from bond contracts, more uniformity in financial statements, further study of tax fields, including corporation tax, likely extension of the principle of Federal collection of Provincial income tax, are the principal items.

Provided the Western Provinces can persuade some other Provinces that it would not be discrimination, a Royal Commission to study the problems of the Prairie West may be set up.

C.G.A. WINS

LETHBRIDGE, Dec. 16th.—C.G.A. candidates made a clean sweep of all vacancies in the municipal elections held here yesterday. Labor candidates polled the next highest votes, the Social Credit-Communist alliance trailing.

Should Farm Movement Be In Politics?

More Views of Readers on Important Issue

Action taken by *The Western Farm Leader* in opening its columns for a discussion of the question of political action by the organized farmers has brought commendation from our readers in all parts of the Province. The subject has aroused more wide spread interest and keener debating than any other recently discussed in our pages.

We publish further letters below. Most of them are either definitely for or definitely against political action; but a few cannot be so easily classified, as they consist of a weighing by the writers of the case for and the case against. The forum will be continued in our next issue, which precedes the Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta, to be held January 19th to 22nd inclusive.

PRO

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:
Your invitation to readers of *The Western Farm Leader* to express themselves through its columns on the question raised by Mr. G. N. Johnston is opportune and well-advised.

Such questions demand earnest thought and it may well be that the mere fact of exercising that thought in the undisturbed atmosphere of the farm home lends a value to the exercise not always found in public debate.

We have to thank Mr. Johnston for introducing this important topic at this time and also for dealing with it so frankly and sincerely. His record and experience justify us in believing that the aim of his letter is to reach objective truth and that his conclusions are not colored unduly either by temperamental bias or a passing mood.

Conclusion of Argument

The conclusion of his argument is
(Continued on page 2)

CON

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:
The pro and con letters appearing in your last issue, relative to the subject of political action by the U.F.A., indicate that the organization is thoroughly divided upon this issue. Without for a moment questioning the intentions of the doctory warriors of either side, I would suggest that the whole debate reminds me of Shakespeare's famous farce, "Much Ado About Nothing."

How Important Is Political Action?
Just how important is political action? What does it get for the people who support a political party? Let us consider these questions in the light of the most favored groups in Canada.

No one will deny that the bankers are treated very well by our Government at Ottawa. But did you ever hear of a Bankers' Party, Mr. Editor? We of Alberta know all too well
(Continued on page 3)

SHOULD ORGANIZED FARMERS BE IN POLITICS?—YES

(Continued from page 1)
excellently summed up, I think, in his concluding sentences.

"An agrarian movement should not occupy the position of a Siamese twin of political action. The death of the one involves the destruction of the other."

Mr. Johnston tells us what he understands by an agrarian movement: "Its object is to protect and advance the interests of the man on the land." He also by implication defines "political action" as active participation by that movement or organization in the affairs of Government.

Not Always History's Verdict

So far all is quite clear. I want now to examine the terms of this proposition a little more closely. I wonder if Mr. Johnston would consent to a widening of these terms so as to make them cover all movements similar in aim, that is to say, all economic class movements which aim at the improvement of the material lot of their members. If Mr. Johnston agrees to this he would have to admit that the verdict of history is not always that which he finds in the case of past agrarian movements adopting the political method. (I am thinking here especially of the Labor Parties of Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia.)

But supposing now that Mr. Johnston disallows the comparison on the ground of widely divergent conditions, one has still to ask what there is

about an agrarian organization that necessarily unfits it for political action. Mr. Johnston gives a catalogue of the causes which brought about the temporary fall of the U.F.A., but these alone do not dispose of the question here raised.

Not one past failure nor a dozen decides that question. We live in a rapidly changing world.

I think that Mr. Johnston is on better ground when he pictures a strong agrarian movement united solely by the occupational bond, an organization that gives careful study to its own special problems and then makes public its suggestions or demands. (It is apparent of course that these demands in our case must reach the ears of the Federal as well as the Provincial Governmental authority for some vitally important questions affecting us such as credit policy, the tariff, immigration and the control of big business, must be addressed to the former.)

Choice Is Resolved

On the general ground here taken—and it is the ground of Mr. Johnston's argument—the question seems to resolve itself into a choice as between moral suasion and political power. Let it be granted that such an organization can be maintained today with no other method of attaining its ends than that of its moral appeal to the public and to Governments, what, in the present state of our public ethics, are its chances of actual

success? We cannot shirk this question and in facing it we must be strictly realistic.

The answer that forces itself upon the writer is that without some display of political power appeals to justice and fair dealing are of little avail. It is depressing to recognise it, but the fact—the brutal fact—would seem to be that in public affairs an ounce of political power is worth a pound of moral appeal.

Mr. Johnston does not argue that the legitimate ends of the man on the land can all be gained today without political action, i.e., by localized co-operative efforts and the like; he does, however, think that the U.F.A. as an organization should rather seek to persuade governments to do the necessary than to participate itself in the work of government.

Crux of Question

Here, I think, we reach the crux of the question. Speaking as a farmer and as a former "wage slave," but also as one who tries to view things objectively, I can only say that I wish I could share Mr. Johnston's faith in the moral force of a public opinion that is not backed by some show of political power. Unfortunately we are living in an age when something very like cynicism regarding high motive in public life is inevitably forced upon us. It should always be remembered moreover that our accepted democratic system implies the legitimate use of political power to attain sectional ends.

Conclusion Rejected

Much then as I admire the lucid argument of Mr. Johnston, and much as I appreciate its significance as a corrective, I am driven to reject his conclusion, first, because he fails to present a convincing alternative to past policy; and second, because his argument when carried to its most general conclusion deprives us not only of our clear rights, but depresses us into something less than fully responsible citizens.

GEORGE CHRISTIE.

Eckville, Alta.

GREATEST POWER ON EARTH

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

Pleased with your November 20th issue re G. N. Johnston's letter proposing the U.F.A. go out of politics. You should get some good letters on that subject.

Some people wish to build an organization at any price with any kind of material. They fail to realize that the greatest power on earth is political power. The sop of co-operation with a possible Government in power that is not sympathetic to the real meaning of the term and their willingness to leave all the present infant co-operative institutions in an uncongenial environment and run the risk of a Provincial Government in the hands of their enemies is indeed something pleasant to look forward to.

Courting Disaster

If we attempt to strengthen our numbers by such means we are courting disaster. One economic member is worth 100 un-economic ones. When the public understand that issue, we will build an economic group from the tillers of the soil that will not wobble.

If the public understood that one of the fundamental laws of capitalism is poverty they might be willing to change it for a civilization that would foster plenty. Price is obtained by making all manufactured wealth scarce. Witness the orgy of inhuman advice re restriction of wheat acreage, or limiting the bushelage the individual could sell, etc.

If the fundamental law of poverty is ever broken by prosperity the price system goes with it. I feel sure we all know that profit, or price, (which does not necessarily mean cost of production), is obtained by the scarcity of wealth.

Law of Scarcity

The inevitable deduction is that we who are forever battling for price,

find ourselves advocating the law of scarcity. Plenty breaks Price and if you want Plenty you cannot tolerate Price. This truth demands more light and is the sword that will right the wrongs of the system.

He who wants Price wants Poverty and is society's Enemy No. 1. If civilized life is to continue, it must develop in a certain direction. What that direction is becomes clearer with each new revolt from capitalism and each new attack upon it. The burning question now confronting the tillers of the soil is whether, even now, this country is determined to resist every attack made upon this civilization, or whether, for instance, it will merely hanker after periods of her past that can never be recalled.

Yours very sincerely,

P. S. BEATT.

Westlock, Alta.

REPLY TO MR. JOHNSTON

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

Mr. Johnston's long letter condemning political action by the U.F.A. organization while defending the U.F.A. Government is so misleading and reactionary that I wish to make some reply.

One of Declared Principles

In the first place, the failure of the U.F.A. Government did not demonstrate the failure of government by representatives of democratic organized groups; it just showed the results of the U.F.A. Government being false to the principles of the organization it was supposed to represent. One of the declared principles of the U.F.A. was "that our organization is continuously in authority," yet the Government repeatedly flouted the resolutions of the U.F.A. convention; for instance will Mr. Johnston tell us why the Government could not support the U.F.A. views on the socialization of finance embodied in Fred White's resolution, which only received ten votes? Why turn over the control of the Provincial police force to a reactionary Dominion authority? And then why the pitiful surrender when the Government was afraid to pass an amendment to the University Act involving the C.C.F. and an important democratic principle? The old stall, Provincial limitation, will not apply here, and now once again, why did organized farmer representatives surrender the leadership of their group to a member of a professional highly privileged group? Had not our Federal members shown that farmers could supply their own leadership?

Where Hope Lies

Mr. Johnston attacks the socialists, those who want to "change the system," and thinks they should all get out and form their own organization. In his 1932 Presidential address, Robert Gardiner closed by stating, "at our last convention we declared our belief that the hope of civilization rests upon human ability to build a Co-operative Commonwealth—to that task we have set our hands"—truly a worthy task, worthy of a great organization, yet Mr. Johnston thinks that Mr. Gardiner and all those responsible for such hopes and beliefs should get out of the U.F.A.

In his 1934 Presidential address Mr. Gardiner issued a warning that had it been heeded might still have saved the U.F.A. Government. He said: "Any lack of resolution at this critical moment in our history; any equivocal action on the part of leaders or the membership as a whole in any of the major units in the Federation; any hesitation in the face of the need for vigorous action by all groups associated in the national movement, with which, by our vote a year ago we became affiliated, will tend in my judgment—though prompted by whatever good intentions—to give encouragement to the powerful forces in Canada which are seeking to lay the basis of Fascism, open or disguised—and likely to be in its early stages disguised rather than open."

And yet not one U.F.A. Cabinet Minister had the resolution to openly support the principles of the C.C.F.

(Continued on page 9)



Sincerest Season's Greetings

are extended

by

THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL

to All

MEMBERS and PATRONS

SHOULD ORGANIZED FARMERS BE IN POLITICS?—NO

(Continued from page 1)

how the Eastern industrialist is protected by a paternal Government. That \$19,000,000 tariff bill which Alberta footed in 1933 is a grim reminder of this fact. But who ever heard of an Industrialists' Party?

What about the Grain Trade? They are getting along very nicely, thank you. And there is no such thing as a Grain Trade Party. The C.P.R. has little trouble in getting assistance when it wants it. Do you remember that \$60,000,000 interest-free loan "R.B." handed to them a few years ago—a loan for which you are held responsible, Mr. Taxpayer, and on which you pay interest year by year. The C.P.R. did not have to elect its own Government in order to get that loan.

It may be true, as some suggest, that the way for consideration of these problems is made smooth by pre-election contributions, but when some particular industry supports one party, only to have that party defeated, as invariably happens in every election, there is no evidence that this industry suffers as a result of its misguided efforts. On the contrary, they all seem to survive, and receive the necessary aid, which ever party is elected.

It would seem that some other factor enters in.

I am not concerned at the moment with the moral aspect of the above-mentioned examples, but I wish to point out what that "other factor" is, as a result of which the aforementioned industries and organizations prevail upon the Government to aid them in their self-styled hour of need.

That Other Factor

They hire a group of economists, or lawyers, or statisticians, to ascertain the circumstances, real or fancied, governing their business decline. Then, by presenting these problems to the proper Government officials, and by enlisting the aid of a few efficient lobbyists, to create the right frame of mind within the necessary M.P.'s, they get what they want! Do they organize a political party? Certainly not. They consider it a waste of time and effort and their results prove that they are correct.

Why is it possible for these gentlemen to get such results, while the U.F.A., after sending a number of very able members to Ottawa for 14 years, got little or nothing? The answer lies in a statement made recently by one of our highly respected ex-M.P.'s. He said: "Any statement made on the floor of the House of Commons is discounted 90 per cent." He also said: "It is practically impossible for the Opposition to force a bill through the House of Commons."

Mr. U.F.A. Member, spend a few minutes thinking over these two statements, made by a man who knows, and then ask yourself: Is the time, money and effort spent in an election campaign worth while? Rightly or wrongly the financier and the industrialist get the desired results, while the farmer and the laborer get a little grudging relief when absolutely necessary. Is it not time we abandoned our old, futile methods and tried the way that others have found successful?

All-Canadian Farm Movement

Mr. G. G. Coote, as reported in your last issue, has suggested how this can be done. His plan is for the farmers of Canada to organize into one All-Canadian Agrarian movement. This body could then hire its own economist and statistician whose job would be to gather data relevant to the farming industry of Canada. Then, when the farmer needs consideration by the Government, these farm representatives could present the case for agriculture, backed by facts and figures—backed also by the organized strength of Canadian farmers. They would have no political axe to grind; their statements would not be automatically discounted 90 per cent before they were even

considered, and they would not be given a cold shoulder because they were of the Opposition.

The road ahead is clearly indicated Mr. Editor. If the U.F.A. had spent their time, effort and finances for the past 16 years in organizing a non-political Canadian farmers' movement, they would now have an organization which could challenge the attention of any Government or business group in Canada. We all know that our cause is just and reasonable. A Canadian farmers' movement could have presented this case to the Canadian Government and the Canadian people fairly, dispassionately and effectively. This is the accepted method of getting results. Sending a minority political group to Ottawa is an excellent way of frustrating all effort.

The farmers of Canada must be organized into one huge industrial group.

If a political party is necessary, at least give it a separate identity, and do not endanger the life of the vastly more important economic organization by throwing it into politics.

We have lost much time, but we have gained experience—priceless experience. In Heaven's name let's stop arguing about getting into or out of the useless dogfight known as politics.

Let's get busy.

Yours truly,

W. J. HARPER.

Claresholm, Alta.

SOONER GET OUT THE BETTER

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

I read with interest Mr. Johnston's article in your last issue, which more than adequately expressed my own sentiments in regard to the U.F.A. withdrawing from politics. The sooner the better. Today, as an organized body with dwindling membership, we are ignored, Provincially and Federally. It would be a different story, if as a powerful non-political organized group we presented demands before the powers that be.

H. R. BOUTILLIER.

Soda Lake, Alta.

INCLINED TO CHANGE VIEWS

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

The letter under the above heading in your issue of November 6th is a very timely discussion of a point that ought probably to be reconsidered at the next annual U.F.A. Convention. Its decision to remain in politics seemed wise to me last January. I for one would like, however, to hear further discussion of the matter, being now rather inclined to agree with the conclusion that the U.F.A. should quit politics. The reasons given by Mr. Johnston for arriving at that conclusion are, however, what get me, and the opportunity thus offered for having a discussion of the matter is welcome.

The article would indicate that the U.F.A. swallowed the C.C.F. and that death was caused by "boring from within." There seems to be a certain suggestion of underhand work on the part of C.C.F. supporters, where Mr. Johnston refers to "citizens other than farmers—organizing for political activities—not as the U.F.A. urged." So while agreeing with the logic of a great part of the letter, I would like to write freely as an individual member of the farm organization and give my review of U.F.A. history indicating certain different interpretations of events to those given by Mr. Johnston.

Economic Reform Sidetracked

Just 20 years ago George Bevington, touring the north country, told us that unearned profit on money or interest could never be paid, that it would appear next year as increased debt, until subsequent and continual increases would threaten civilization itself. The left wing of the U.F.A. have never refused to help the right wing—putter around with palliatives for the last 20 years. In the 1933 convention after so many years of

"wandering in the wilderness," it did seem that the organized farmers had caught the vision of a better economic condition and the way to get it. It was outlined in a C.C.F. program and supported by over 99 per cent of the assembled delegates. The enthusiasm there engendered, the vision seen from that hilltop of U.F.A. history, was sufficient to have carried them through the lowland and over the top again in the 1935 election.

But what happened? The lead horses on the Provincial political band wagon absolutely balked. They wanted to follow the old ruts, the trails over which they had been accustomed to travel, even though along those trails lay all the toll gates by which the people of Alberta had been and would continue to be robbed.

Refused to Act

After the 1933 convention some of the U.F.A. people endeavored to interpret the decision of the Convention to the Locals. They sought to outline the trail along which the farmers of Alberta might travel to their new objective. But imagine their dismay and disappointment when the only body with power to act refused to act. Not only did the Provincial Government refuse even to try to act officially along the line of the almost unanimous decision of the U.F.A. convention, but they refused to act as an educational force to spread the knowledge of C.C.F. principles among the members of the organization. Furthermore, they refused to use their influence in Ottawa to have those parts of the C.C.F. program carried out there which could not be carried out by provincial authority.

The C.C.F. never asked that the hen and the rooster, the pig and the cow, the horse and the mule be socialized. They advocated Public Ownership and operation in the interests of the public of those things where free and open competition has been stifled, strangled by trusts and combines, and where prices are set by private owners to bring continual profit to the owners and continual loss to the users. The C.C.F. demanded "Service at Cost" in finance, insurance, and to replace monopolies in big business by public services. They advocated co-operation where competition still prevailed. I challenge Mr. G. N. Johnston or anyone else to condemn the program. Now, either condemn it or show cause why you did not follow it, or at least try to follow it.

People Would Have Backed Them

If the U.F.A. government had turned up the new trail, pulling upward to higher levels of living, if they had smashed a wheel of the wagon or broken a tug, the people of Alberta who are alive to what is going on would have shouted hurrah and been there with repairs or a new harness. But at last election the Government said: "We can't do a thing. We have no hope to offer you. We will go on as in the past giving you honest efficient government." We might add, honest in carrying on an economic system whose motivating purpose is exploitation; efficient in applying palliatives to the worst features of a system that should be replaced.

Representatives of the Provincial Cabinet and members of the Legislature were at the 1933 Convention and had the privilege of the floor. If they thought the decision of the Convention in favor of the C.C.F. program was wrong why did they not oppose it? If it was right why did they not support it? If their conscientious objections would not allow them to carry out the almost unanimous will of the Convention why did they not resign? They did none of these things. In spite of disappointment and chagrin the U.F.A. organization's officials (so far as I know) to a man supported their hally rebellious Provincial Government to the last ditch in 1935. They did not have nerve enough to denounce and disown them, but the people of the Province



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In a Cheerful Christmas Carton

and many individual members of the U.F.A. organization disowned them, evidently preferring an outfit that plainly didn't know what to do but were ready to do something, to one that did know what to do and what it involved but were ready to do nothing.

"Who Killed Cock Robin?"

Why is the U.F.A. today out of the picture politically? You may blame it on those of us farmers not "other than farmers" who wanted to "change the system," the 99 per cent of the 1933 Convention. My view is that those who refused to implement or try to implement the decision of that Convention, but split away and did that which was right in their own eyes, are they who divided the U.F.A. house against itself so that it could not stand. The left wing of the U.F.A., oft crushed in defeat has always loyally supported the rightists in their line of action. The same cannot be said of the right wing. When the left wing prevailed in the 1933 Convention the right wing refused to flop along so that we might continue to go places. The result was as might have been anticipated.

Space will not permit a criticism of such statements as that "The radical and reactionary will speak with one voice on such questions as . . . farm debt problems, etc." The radicals in 1935 convention spoke for a "horizontal reduction of debt," the reactionary spoke against it. But suppose radical and reactionary farmers would speak with one voice to the "political servants of capitalism." Have you a right to ask another man's servant to work for you? The only way you can have men working for you is to hire them yourself. This involves political action financed by the common people. Name it what you will. If it does not draw its campaign funds from the exploiters, it will not have to serve them.

Co-operative Effort

I hope that I do not minimize the importance of co-operative effort even under the old system. I understand what it has done for the common people in Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries. But what do Fascist Dictators do to co-operatives (Continued on page 12)

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"BRITISH FAIR PLAY?"

As the result of a series of dramatic events King Edward has abdicated and been succeeded by the Duke of York, who comes to the throne with his brother's blessing, as King George VI.

Of all the implications of those events, constitutional and otherwise, it is not possible as yet to write with adequate knowledge. The former King manfully took upon his own shoulders full responsibility for his decision.

One titular monarch has gone, and has been succeeded by another. The monarchy of economic privilege which is the chief cause of the sorry state to which the mass of mankind is reduced in an age of abundance is another matter with which we do not propose at this time to deal.

* * *

What we are concerned with at the moment is the appalling cruelty of the attacks launched upon the former king by archbishops and other eminent clerics, within a few days of his departure into voluntary exile.

In the name of the Christian religion (to quote the words of one of Lord Beaverbrook's newspapers), a number of leading churchmen commenced last Sunday "bravely" to fire its artillery "against a position already evacuated." It would indeed have been braver for the churchmen to have launched their open attack while Edward was still on the throne, and not to have followed him into exile with words which (for all their pastoral phrasing) were in the nature of maledictions, hurled with venom against a man who after the strain of a long personal crisis, had left England's shores, to brood sorrowfully upon the tragic circumstances of his abdication.

* * *

It is gratifying to know, however, that the clerical assault upon the departed monarch was not unanimous. The Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Hewlett Johnson, alone among the clergy who spoke on the national tragedy, emphasized, according to the despatches, the fact that "King Edward was heart and soul with the poor and believed that poverty could be abolished in the present age of plenty." Miss Maud Royden, a nonconformist minister, had previously expressed herself to similar

effect as did Bishop Potter in New York.

* * *

The king had given many evidences of his interest. We have studied the front pages of British newspapers published only a few days before the thunderbolt fell. Nearly all deal with the visit of the King to Wales, and his expressions of sympathy with the people of the distressed areas and desire that something should be done.

Whether the King should or should not have so expressed himself is a constitutional point which may be debated at leisure. Upon that question we are prepared to express no considered opinion at this time; but of the sincerity of his desire for the welfare of the people whose distress he had witnessed, we do not think there can be any doubt.

We choose four headings, the first from *Reynold's Weekly*, organ of the Co-operative Movement, which read: "King Hears Secret of Unpublished Report"—a report on South Wales which had been suppressed and which his visit had brought to light.

In the *Sunday Express*, Lord Beaverbrook's paper, we read:

"The King Sets Out to 'Get Something Done'—Spurring the Cabinet to Action";

And in Rothermere's *Daily Despatch*: "The King and The Cabinet"—Special Areas Tackled Afresh After Wales Visit";

While *Glasgow Forward*, a Socialist weekly, carried the heading:

"The King's Visit: What Next?" and below Herbert Morrison, M.P., commented, "I think the King must have decided to let the 'Forgotten Man' know that he had not been forgotten."

That is why many will raise glasses this Christmas to "the King over the water."

* * *

The King's Abdication

(The Ottawa *Evening Citizen*, Friday, December 11th, 1936)

The British Commonwealth has lost a great king. It is doubtful whether any living man, let alone any royal prince, has ever received such broad training for public service as Edward VIII from boyhood. No prince had ever been brought into such human contact with the people in every part of the world. None had ever lived with soldiers on the battle front as the Prince of Wales did. In France at schoolboy age, he saw

the bodies of dead British soldiers hanging like scarecrows on barbed wire. He lived for several months with the Canadian troops. . . . At the impressionable age of twenty, royal Edward had learnt to speak the language of the common soldier. He had also, doubtless, been started on the path of thinking like any other normal man.

* * *

After the war, Edward began travelling in the world far beyond the British Isles or the traditional paths of monarchy in Europe. He came to Canada. He mingled freely with the Canadian people as he had done with the troops in France. He chatted with newspapermen, rode the ranges, became an actual ranch owner at High River. Later he visited the United States where he became one of the most popular British figures ever to be welcomed to America. He went to India, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Argentina and elsewhere in South America. He came to be regarded as Britain's greatest ambassador of commerce.

At home he began to manifest a social consciousness of the living conditions of the millions of unemployed, and of the underpaid, living in slum properties and drab tenement rows. Travel is said to be a great educational influence. Edward had been educated beyond the mental limitations of the conventional King. He had developed the capacity to think for himself.

On King Edward's first public appearance outside of London after ascending the throne, when he went to Glasgow to launch the "Queen Mary," he also insisted upon visiting the slum homes of some of the workers discharged from the Clyde shipyards. He spoke of the living conditions of the unemployed artisans as "ghastly." Similarly in the King's last official visit outside of London, he went to South Wales—where he had gone as Prince several years before in an effort to inspire more effective employment measures. Once more he spoke of the need of remedial action to rescue the lost legions of Britain's industrial army.

* * *

The conscience of constituted authority had become disturbed, however, over something far removed from the living conditions of some of King Edward's former comrades and loyal subjects. The Prime Minister had learnt of the King's desire to depart from the conventional way of royal matrimony. Edward had long stubbornly refused to marry as princes usually do in accordance with the traditions of royal romance. He had become deeply attached to an American woman who had already twice withdrawn from marriage with other men by the process of divorce. This record disqualified her from being accepted by the authorities as suitable to be the King's mate during the few occasional hours when His Majesty could retire into private domestic life. He made a revolutionary departure from the traditional way of kings under such circumstances. King Edward VIII decided that he would rather give up the throne than forgo the right to enjoy wedlock on a basis of legal marriage. He had outgrown a former standard of monarchy.

When the constituted authorities refused to contemplate any such marriage, the King took the honorable course of abdication. He could have stayed on as King and Defender of the Faith without going through any marriage ceremony. British people everywhere may well feel grateful to Edward for this supreme act of self-effacement. He had served the nation well and faithfully for more than twenty years. Perhaps he had been brought too close to touch with the common people. He will be remembered in history as a great Prince and a man with human qualities of heart and mind.

CRISIS ENDS WITH ABDICATION AND NEW ACCESSION

**King Edward VIII Succeeded by
Duke of York Who Becomes
George VI**

King Edward VIII by a purely voluntary act of abdication on December 10th, stepped down from the throne of the British Commonwealth to give place to his brother, the Duke of York, to whom in a radio broadcast to the peoples of the Commonwealth he pledged his loyalty and support.

The new King takes the title of George VI.

The history of the crisis which ended in King Edward's abdication has been recorded from day to day in broadcasts and in the daily press.

Essence of Matter

The essence of the matter under dispute was the disapproval of Premier Baldwin (and his position was supported later by Parliament) of the King's projected marriage with Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson, an American, whose divorce from Ernest Simpson had recently been announced, and who had also divorced a former husband. Church authorities also strenuously opposed the marriage, and marriage as suggested by King Edward, which would have constituted Mrs. Simpson as his consort without the title of Queen and would have deprived any issue of the marriage from the right of succession to the throne, was declared impossible under English law by the Prime Minister, who also stated that he was confident that the people of Britain and the Dominions would not favor legislation to make such a course possible.

Baldwin's Statement

Following the reading to Parliament of the King's message, announcing his abdication, Premier Baldwin made a statement giving in some detail an account of his various conversations with the King upon the subject. He had first spoken to the King on the rumors of his friendship with Mrs. Simpson, he said, without the knowledge of any of his colleagues; but at later stages had consulted several of the senior members of the Cabinet. He spoke of the strong friendship which he said had existed between himself and King Edward for many years; this, he said, was not impaired but strengthened by recent events.

The King, said Mr. Baldwin, had wished the matter to be settled in these private conversations, without reference to any other authorities or individuals. If he decided to abdicate, he wished to go with dignity, he had said, and with as little disturbance to the Government as possible; the idea of the formation of a King's party was abhorrent to him.

On the request of the King, he had placed before the Cabinet and the Dominions Premiers the proposal that Mrs. Simpson should become the King's wife without taking the position of Queen; and he had afterwards reported to King Edward that this would not be acceptable. The King had remarked that he was not surprised.

Frankness of Character

"The King has told us," said Mr. Baldwin, "that he does not see his way to carrying those almost intolerable burdens of kingship without a woman by his side, and we know that this crisis, if I may use the word, has risen now rather than later from that very frankness of His Majesty's character which is one of his many attractions."

In conclusion, Mr. Baldwin spoke feelingly of the painful position of Queen Mary, and made an appeal for maintenance of the "integrity of the monarchy which was now the sole link of the whole Empire and guardian of our freedom."

Edward's Farewell Message

This statement was made in Par-

Gave Up Throne for Marriage



Rather than abandon his plans for marriage to the woman he loved, King Edward VIII abdicated on December 10th, thus bringing to an end a crisis of two weeks' duration. His reasons for taking this course were outlined in a broadcast message to the peoples of the British Commonwealth, which by its manliness and sincerity won world-wide praise.

liament on Thursday last, December 10th; and on Friday evening, the bill of abdication having been passed, Edward, introduced as Prince Edward, broadcast a message from Windsor Castle, just before leaving England. It was listened to by millions of British citizens, and by citizens of other countries, with an interest possibly never before shown in any broadcast address. The text of his message follows:

"At long last I am able to say a few words of my own. I have never wanted to withhold anything, but until now it has been constitutionally impossible for me to speak.

"A few hours ago I discharged my last duty as King and Emperor, and now that I have been succeeded by my brother, the Duke of York, my first words must be to declare my allegiance to him. This I do with all my heart. You all know the reasons which have impelled me to renounce the throne, but I want you to understand that in making up my mind I did not forget the country or the Empire, which as Prince of Wales and later as King I have for 25 years tried to serve. But you must believe me when I tell you that I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden and the responsibility and to discharge my duties as King without the help and support of the woman I love, and I want you to know that the decision I have made has been mine and mine alone.

"This was the thing I had to decide entirely for myself. The other person most nearly concerned has tried up to the last to persuade me to take a different course.

Most Serious Decision

"I have made this, the most serious decision of my life, only upon the single thought of what would in the end be best for all.

"This decision has been made less difficult to me by the sure knowledge that my brother with his long training

in the public affairs of this country and with his fine qualities will be able to take my place forthwith without interruption or injury to the life and progress of the Empire. And he has one matchless blessing enjoyed by so many of you and not bestowed on me, a happy home with his wife and children.

"During these hard days I have been comforted by Her Majesty, my mother, and by my family. The ministers of the crown and in particular Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister, have always treated me with full consideration. There has never been any constitutional difference between me and them and between me and Parliament. Bred in the constitutional consideration by my father I should never have allowed any such issue to arise.

"Ever since I was Prince of Wales and later on when I occupied the throne I have been treated with the greatest kindness by all classes of people wherever I have lived or journeyed throughout the empire. For that I am very grateful. I now quit public affairs and I lay down my burden.

"It may be some time before I return to my native land, but I shall always follow the fortunes of the British race and Empire with profound interest and if at any time in the future I can be found of service to His Majesty in a private station I shall not fail.

"And now we all have the new King. I wish him and you, his people, happiness and prosperity with all my heart.

"God bless you all.
"God Save the King."

Prince Edward (later created Duke of Windsor), is now a guest of Baron de Rothschild, at Enzesfeld, Austria. Clerics Attack Voluntary Exile

On the Sunday following the end of the crisis, bishops and archbishops of the Church of England (which dis-

WELL ATTENDED MEETINGS HELD AT RURAL POINTS

**Widespread Interest at Gatherings
Addressed by President
Gardiner, and Director**

Meetings held by Robert Gardiner, President of the U.F.A., at rural points, continued to arouse widespread interest and numerous well-attended meetings have been held since our last issue went to press.

The most recent series was held at points in the Wetaskiwin Federal Constituency, where Mr. Gardiner was accompanied by H. E. Heath, U.F.A. Director.

The series commenced at Spruceville Hall on Monday of last week, when an interested gathering heard the President, though owing to the fact that it was turkey picking day the attendance was not as large as would otherwise have been the case, writes Mr. Heath.

Welcomed by M.L.A.

"At Tees, the same night," he adds, "we had about 60, including D. B. MacMillan, M.L.A., who spoke a few words of welcome and assured Mr. Gardiner on behalf of the Government that they wanted to see a strong farmers organization in the Province."

At Wetaskiwin, Mr. Gardiner and Mr. Heath were guests of the Kiwanis Club at their weekly supper, Mr. Gardiner addressing them briefly on "Credit," and there was very keen interest shown.

"The meeting in the U.F.A. Hall at 8:30," states Mr. Heath, "was moderately attended and followed by some discussion re the trends of the times. At Bremner Hall, December 9th, a crowd of about 60 gathered. All meetings were marked by rapt attention to Mr. Gardiner's address, and the unanswerable logic of his reasoned deductions preclude questioning, except perhaps to elucidate some point."

Heath Speaks

Mr. Heath also addressed all meetings briefly on the subject of the organization and the need for an effort by every member to strengthen the organization; also on the political future of the organization, trying to point out the real present status, and to show the other avenues under discussion and the possible outcome of the action that may be taken at the Convention.

"There is a very keen and lively interest in the organization shown everywhere, not only in the Wetaskiwin Constituency either," he declares. He addressed the Huxley-Grainger Association last week when Mr. Gardiner was unable to attend and found things very keen there too.

approves the re-marriage of divorced persons, no matter what the circumstances) joined in a bitter criticism of the former King and some of his friends.

This criticism after the event was in its turn strongly criticised by sections of the press, by Members of Parliament and others.

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THE CHRISTMAS TREE



IN the ranch kitchen there was every evidence of approaching festivities. Mrs. Autrey was beating the batter for a huge fruit cake while her niece, Alene, sat on a high stool, her slender legs entwined with the legs of the stool, beating eggs. Three flaky mince pies cooled on the table, while a batch of fudge bubbled on the stove.

"Oh, Aunt!" The rhythmic beating stopped and the egg whisk clattered on the edge of the platter. Alene looked up with brightening eyes. "Let's have a tree!"

Her aunt, a strong, masculine-appearing woman, looked up from the batter she was testing. "Huh?"

"Let's have a Christmas tree," she repeated, but her voice had lost some of its exuberant ring. She resumed her egg-beating with the air of one who had said the wrong thing.

Mrs. Autrey set the green crock down with a thud, and looked at Alene with an expression of mingled pity and exasperation.

"A Christmas tree! No! What, in heaven's name, would we do with a Christmas tree? We're not expecting any children here are we?"

Alene swallowed painfully, then bolstered her courage for one last effort. "But they're such fun and so pretty!"

"Nonsense! They're untidy, you mean, and expensive and silly—for grown folks. Give me the eggs. And there, your fudge's boiled over. See what happens when your mind wanders."

With resentfully flaming cheeks Alene rescued the fudge, set it aside to spoil utterly, and with head high marched out of the kitchen.

For a few minutes she stood undecided in her room, then she jerked on a jacket and cap with much energy and went out of the house, defiantly choosing to leave by way of the kitchen. Unfortunately, Aunt's back was turned, and her departure lost some of its zest. She took a small axe from the kindling box and went out to the range behind the sheepfolds and barns.

Cedars were scarce enough in this section, but Alene remembered having seen some few scrubby ones somewhere out there and meant to have one. It would need to be a small one since she must set it up in her own room.

Well, never mind, it would be a Christmas tree anyway.

Aunt poured the batter for the big cake into the big pan and put it into the oven at last. She had concentrated so intently upon this important business that she had been only vaguely aware of Alene's departure.

Now, as the sight of the fudge pan met her eye she recalled the incident with an exclamation.

What did Alene mean by leaving the fudge for her to beat? Where had she gone anyway? She opened the door and looked out. Why, she was going out on the range with —. She pulled off her spectacles, wiped them on her apron, replaced them and looked again. Yes, she had an axe over her shoulder. Um! She didn't exactly like the set of Alene's head nor the vigorous way she was taking that slope. Alene could be troublesome when she set her head.

Mrs. Autrey came in and closed the door. Her lips were set. She marched to the telephone in the hall. A moment later this one-sided conversation might have been heard—

"That you, Flake? . . . This is Mrs. Autrey . . . I'm all right. Are you busy? . . . Well, Alene's in one of her stubborn spells and has gone out on the range. Oh, she got a silly notion about wantin' a Christmas tree. The idea, at her age! But it don't do to give in to her. She might as well learn now that she can't have everything her own way in the world, 'specially when I'm dead and gone. . . . Yes, I wish you would if you don't mind . . . Well . . . Good-bye."

Flake Bailey hung up the receiver, lighted a cigarette and reached for his hat. A few minutes later he was swinging across the winter-bleached grassland at a pace that promised soon to overtake the shorter stride of the girl.

"Hey!" Alene wheeled, smiling to meet his smile. They continued their walk together for some minutes in silence, Flake having relieved her of the axe and tucked her fingers into the crook of his arm.

"It does seem that when a fellow's best girl starts out for a winter walk that she'd just naturally let the fellow know so he could go too."

Alene looked up and down and blushed and chuckled.

"But when the best girl didn't know it herself until she'd started—"

she laughed.

"And why didn't she know it?"

A frown followed the smile. "Aunt No-Don't has gotten one of her stubborn spells on," she shrugged.

It was with difficulty that Flake maintained a sober exterior.

"And over simply nothing! I just wanted a Christmas tree."

"And she didn't, eh?"

"She didn't."

"What are you going to do about it?"

"I'm going for the tree! You'll help me, won't you?" She looked up at him appealingly.

"But if Aunt No-Don't says no, don't, why —"

"Why, we'll just do it anyway! She's no cause to be so unreasonable."

I don't ask for much, Flake, you know I don't."

"Of course I know it, precious," he said tenderly, "but still we must remember that —"

"Remember what? That I'm under obligations to her, I suppose. That I must be a sweet, obedient child so she'll leave me her ranch in her will. Well, I won't! I'm tired of being reminded that I'm beholden to Aunt. I'm tired of being afraid to call my soul my own because I'm under obligations to her. As if I haven't earned everything I've got. The idea of having to ask Aunt if I may have a Christmas tree! I'll show her!"

"But it's Mrs. Autrey's house, Alene."

Alene turned on him with blazing eyes. "There you go, sticking up for her. I might have known—oh, I might have known you would! Lots you care about me, Flake Bailey, or for my pleasure. Lots you care whether I have a happy Christmas."

"Now Alene, listen to reason."

"I won't listen to anything from you, sir. Go talk to Aunt No-Don't. No doubt she'll welcome your support. As for me, don't ever speak to me again!"

She had flung herself from him and now plunged full tilt down the hill toward home, tears blinding her, sobs choking her, while Flake stood still and watched. He rubbed his chin reflectively.

"Poor kid. Aunt No-Don't is something of a trial."

The two of them had given her this name long ago because it expressed so completely her perverse attitude toward everything others wanted to do, particularly Alene, her ward.

Mrs. Autrey was a widow who managed her own sheep ranch with remarkable skill, and Flake was her right-hand man. Yet, while she trusted him with the sheep and with portions of her business, when it came to paying court to Alene it was a different matter. He had had to cultivate the utmost patience, and Mrs. Autrey's friendship and confidence, before he was allowed in speaking distance of the charming niece.

And now Flake dare not affront Mrs. Autrey lest she banish him from the presence and society of the girl he had come to love. If Alene had been of age he might have snapped his fingers in Aunt's face, figuratively, of course, and like young Lochinvar, galloped away with the fair maiden. As it was he must bide his time.

Alene stopped at the barn long enough to get over her tears. Then she entered the house by the front door and went quietly to her room. Once there she closed the door and began hastily packing a suitcase. She changed her frock, donned her best coat and hat, counted her money, and then with suitcase in one hand

and purse in the other she went out to the garage.

Her eyes brightened at the sight of the mangy little car she had bought with her savings of two frugal years. It was uncertain both as to age and disposition, but Alene loved it with almost sisterly affection. She put her baggage in and seated herself behind the worn steering wheel. Soon she had the motor whirring—no one could truthfully say it purred, but its rattle was vigorous and reassuring. She backed it out and went bounding away in the direction of town.

Flake had stood looking after Alene for several minutes, then he had studied the toe of his boot and at last swung off across the hill. It did seem a shame she couldn't have a tree. But he knew Mrs. Autrey. She didn't want her immaculate house made untidy with cedar boughs, drippings of tinsel, and mistletoe.

When Flake returned home it was by a roundabout way that took him out of sight of the Autrey home.

Mrs. Autrey did not worry about Flake after she had sent him on Alene's trail, and Flake did not worry about Mrs. Autrey after she returned to the house, so both pursued their own duties for some time.

It was not until Mrs. Autrey went to the other part of the house and caught a glimpse of Alene's room in the utmost disorder that she learned the truth, for there was a note on Alene's dresser that told the whole story. It read: "I have gone to the city to live my own life and where I can have a Christmas tree if I want to. Good-bye for ever.—Alene."

Mrs. Autrey gave a desolate cry and flew to the phone. Her hysterical message brought Flake in quick time, and he was soon reading with his own eyes the round girlish letters of Alene's note. He looked at it for a long time in order to hide the twinkle of amuse-



She had flung herself away from him, and now plunged full tilt down the hill toward home.

ment in his eyes. But it was no laughing matter with Mrs. Autrey, and when she commanded him to go immediately and bring her back before she came to some horrible end in the wicked city, Flake knew better than to argue.

He set out at once, a great deal of sympathy in his heart for Alene. Girls did value freedom of action and

Alene had had little enough. It was small wonder she was running away, what with Aunt No-Don't's continual "thou shalt" and "thou shalt not." As for the tirade against himself, he was not seriously worried. Time and a little absent treatment would remedy that.

It was no more than was to be expected that Alene should have tire trouble. Flake all but made the mistake of applying the brake and stopping when he saw her car parked in front of a filling station and Alene nervously watching a grease-smeared boy jacking up the rear wheel.

Instead of stopping, however, he kept his eyes straight ahead and sped by, very conscious that she might recognize him. At the first opportunity he turned into a side street and waited. It was a half hour before she resumed her journey, with Flake now on her trail, keeping as far behind as he dare not to lose her.

So he followed her to the city. Alene had been to Derbyville before. She and her aunt had attended the big exhibition there in the autumn, and had taken rooms at a nice boarding house, the address of which she remembered. To that place she directed her car. She booked the choice front room upstairs, for she wanted to sit at the window and watch the traffic and listen to the noise of the city. She wanted to see the people on joyous holiday errands, coming home with bundles and holly wreaths and jolly little evergreens. She loved the way the spruces by the doorways were ablaze with coloured lights, and the windows hung with wreaths and ribbons. Why, everybody kept Christmas here, and it was so bustling and gay and alive.

Best of all, she was going to be a part of it! She would buy a tree and light and decorate it and let its glory shine forth from her big front window for all the world to see—her very first Christmas tree! She settled herself with an ecstatic sigh. It would be a lovely Christmas!

Flake wired Mrs. Autrey. "Have my eye on Alene. Giving her a little rope. Don't worry. Flake."

But she worried just the same, as women are wont to do. Besides, with Alene and Flake both away the prospects for Christmas cheer seemed remote.

Selecting and trimming the tree was better fun, Alene told herself, than a whole barrel of monkeys. She dressed and redressed it, hung and rehung the bright festooning, the glittering bells, the tiny coloured lights, until it could no longer be improved upon. When night came she turned on the lights, raised the shade and went out to see how it looked from the street. It was beautiful! She was standing on the opposite side of the street admiring it with much glowing pride when someone touched her elbow.

"Hello, kid. Lonesome?"

Alene looked up into the leering face of a stranger. With a little choking cry she darted away and into the house. She took the stairs with quaking knees and her hand shook on the doorknob. Inside she locked herself in and sank to the floor. She was afraid to move into the circle of light from the little tree lest the man in the street observed her. Finally she crawled on hands and knees to the side of the window and drew down the shade. The gay little tree was fairly quivering with holiday spirit, but its magic was gone. Her heart no longer responded to its rich and varied glory.

A few minutes later a new chill shook her as a peal from the doorbell rang through the big old house. Somehow Alene knew it was for her. That man had followed. She could scarcely breathe for the heavy pounding of her heart. She laid a cold hand on her throbbing throat. Mrs. Wilkins was calling her from downstairs. Alene could not have answered if she would. She sat crouching on the cold bare floor behind the sparkling tree.

Mrs. Wilkins was mounting the

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"Enclosed please find \$1.00 subscription for your paper. I wish to congratulate you on the fine paper you are publishing and sincerely hope that you receive the encouragement and support that your enterprise deserves. Fast transpiring economic events make it absolutely imperative that the organized farmers have a medium to express their aims, desires and wrongs through. Thanks to you that is possible."—H. R. Boutillier, Soda Lake.

stairs. She flew to open the door for her.

"Miss Autrey, there's a gentleman downstairs wants to see you. Says he's a friend of yours."

"No! No! I don't want to see him! He isn't any friend of mine. You won't let him bother me, will you?" She pleaded.

"Why certainly not. But he doesn't look like a man to be afraid of. But of course if you don't want to see him that's your business." She turned away. Alene shrank back into the doorway and listened. The voices came up the stairwell distinctly.

"She says you are no friend of hers and she doesn't wish to see you."

The man laughed and Alene pricked up her ears.

"Well, give her my best wishes for a merry Christmas anyway, and tell her the tree's a beauty."

Alene gasped, then rushed for the stairs.

"Flake! Flake! is it you? I thought—I didn't know—Oh, I'm so glad you've come!"

He was waiting at the foot of the stairs, his arms outstretched. Alene ran into them. "Flake, please take me home."

"Right now?"

"Yes, right now."

"Run, get your things."

As they threaded their way through the heavy Christmas Eve traffic it seemed to Alene that it had grown harassed and weary, and far too loud. She longed for the deep sweet silences of the plains, and was delighted at the speed Flake made, once out of the city. She settled back in her corner with a half regretful sigh.

"I did hate to leave my tree," she admitted presently, "but anyhow I had it a little while."

"Never mind, I've a surprise for you at my house." And Alene's smile answered his. It would be easy to guess what it was.

It was ten o'clock when they reached home. The light in the living room had been visible for a mile. Alene watched it with a slight rekindling of resentment. No doubt Aunt was spending Christmas Eve as she spent all her other evenings, reading or mending or balancing accounts.

Alene sighed resignedly as she stepped out of the car, and followed Flake in. The sudden gust of wind that entered with them fanned the flame of the lamp on the table and gave every object in the room a queer, unbalanced aspect. It made Alene's eyes hurt. She blinked them quickly. And then things looked queerer than ever.

Aunt No-Don't was sitting on top of the step ladder beside an immense cedar tree, festoons of cranberries looped over one arm and yards of strung popcorn over the other. The older woman, too, gazed blankly a moment, then quick tears of happiness and relief sprang to her eyes.

"Oh, Alene, is it you? Well, it's a good thing you've come," she added, her tone changing. "I was just in the act of breaking my neck trying to trim this tree. You'll have to finish it. And don't you dare get cranberries and popcorn on my carpet! I'm going to bed. I'm dead tired. Flake, you help her with that tree. And don't either of you open those packages over there."

"All right, Aunt. I think the tree is lovely," she said softly.

Her aunt said "humph" and went out trying not to look pleased.

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REVIEW WORK OF BUYING SUPPLIES BY CO-OPERATIVES

Conference in Calgary is Attended by Representatives of 26 Associations

GOOD PROGRESS

Central Co-operative's Volume of Business Exceeds That of Any Previous Year

Meeting for two days in sixth annual conference in the Elizabethan Rooms at the Hudson's Bay Company store in Calgary, early in December, 26 representatives of district and constituency co-operative association, together with the central committee of the U.F.A. Co-operative Association, reviewed the work of co-operative buying of farm supplies for the past year.

Outstanding Features

Among the outstanding items of interest were an address by J. E. Brownlee, K.C., on the effect of legislation upon the co-operatives, a lecture and demonstration by Mr. McFarlane, sales engineer of the Ethyl Corporation of Western Canada, on the value of tetra-ethyl lead in fuel for high compression engines.

Problems of the oil industry from a distributor's point of view were discussed with C. C. Peake, manager of the Maple Leaf Petroleum, Ltd., for whom the U.F.A. Central Co-operative Association are Alberta agents.

E. S. McRory of the United Grain Growers met the conference in connection with the co-operative distribution of binder twine. An address on fire and automobile insurance by K. W. Townsend of the Saskatchewan Mutual Fire Insurance Company, was another feature of the conference.

The social event of the conference was a dinner at the York Hotel at which the delegates were guests of Maple Leaf Petroleum management.

Substantial Progress

Notwithstanding the very serious

Offer \$1,000 First Prize

A first prize of One Thousand Dollars, second prize of Six Hundred Dollars and third prize of Four Hundred Dollars are offered by the New History Society, 132 East 65th St., New York City, for the best papers of not more than 2,000 words on the subject "How Can the People of the World Achieve Universal Disarmament?" This is open to people in all parts of the world, and an additional prize of \$200 is offered for the best paper from North America. The competition closes May, 1st, 1937.

Eighty managers and employees of co-operatives and others interested are enrolled in a four weeks' course conducted by the Institute for Co-operative Management, at the University of Minnesota.

Chain grocery store organizations in England are paying men salesclerks as little as 30 shillings weekly (7.50) while 40 shillings (\$10) is relatively high, stated an official of the Shop Assistants' Union. These wages are for 55 to 70 hours, without payment for overtime.

crop failure covering a large section of the Province, ten of the constituency co-operatives reporting gave evidence of substantial progress. U.F.A. Central Co-operative showing a volume turnover greatly exceeding that of any previous year.

As one of the two representatives from the constituency co-operatives to the Board of the Central Co-operative, C. A. Fawcett of Consort, who has represented the constituency co-operatives on the Central Board for the past five years, was re-elected, and Norman D. Stewart, of Chinook, was elected as the other representative, in place of George MacLachlan, of Clive, who occupied the position for the past five years.

Norman F. Priestley presided on the first day and George N. Johnston of Loyalist, on the second.

At a meeting of the Board of the Central Co-operative held at the close of the conference, Mr. Priestley was elected chairman of the Board.

Whose Savings Will be Next?

The money the people of this Province borrowed was used to provide them the houses, barns, and lands which now give them shelter and in which they do business. They have used them, and they continue to do so. Should they not recognize those who made it possible for them to have those things? Is it just that those who have saved, and who have been thrifty, to provide you with the facilities you possess should now be deprived of their savings?

Let those who look upon the lending companies as "big business" enquire whose money they have enjoyed. They will learn, as we shall tell them in one of the statements to follow.

If the citizens of Alberta pass by lightly the injustice of this Act, what is to prevent their own savings, their homes, their business, their farms and other possessions being taken away from them? Can they feel safe in the enjoyment of their savings? Keep in mind that the confiscation of the property of others is only the first step leading to the confiscation of yours.

You have been told that our Government does not intend to confiscate. The Reduction and Settlement of Debts Act would confiscate the savings of hundreds of thousands of people. Whose savings will be taken next?

This statement is one of a series written by The Mortgage Loans Association of the Province of Alberta. The Association is composed of 34 member companies. It represents hundreds of thousands of small investments by typical Canadians. Its loans to citizens of Alberta amount to some forty-five million dollars.

Current News from Near and Far

PROVINCIAL

Premier Aberhart will spend the Christmas holidays at the Coast.

Mrs. Emma Davis, of Edmonton, who reached the age of 100 last March, died on Sunday.

The annual meetings of the Alberta Provincial Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations are being held in Edmonton this week.

J. H. Tremblay succeeded in retaining Grouard for the Liberals when he defeated Dr. Desrosiers, Social Credit, by a majority of 180 in last week's election.

It is expected that Turner Valley oil production this year will be more than 1,000,000 barrels by the end of December. Last year's figure was 966,528.

J. Hargrave, leader of the "Green Shirt" section of the Social Credit movement in Great Britain, is a visitor in Edmonton. He said that he was here purely in a private capacity.

Lac Ste. Anne district will be the scene of the first experiment under the Provincial Government's school consolidation plan. Some seventy existing school districts will constitute the new unit.

International Nickel of Canada made \$23,000,000 profit out of the Ethiopian war, declared Rev. T. C. Douglas, M.P., speaking in Calgary Tuesday. This was literally "blood money" made out of the agony of the Ethiopian people who were resisting aggression. Here was a point at which Canada could apply economic sanctions effectively.

\$480,000 will be spent on a work-wages road-construction plan, under agreement between the Province and Dominion, it is announced from Edmonton. The Federal Government are contributing half the amount and lending the Province, unable to pay its share, the remaining half. Men will be paid 30 cents an hour, and work will be done on main through highways.

In behalf of Douglas Social Credit groups in Alberta a telegram was despatched from Calgary on December 7th to King Edward VIII, as follows: "H.M. The King, London: Douglas Social Creditors pledge you their loyal and sympathetic support in present crisis." (Sgd.) Palmer. Major Douglas in a cable to supporters of the movement throughout the Empire, had impressed upon them the seriousness of the crisis.

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We are in the market for a quantity of cast iron and steel, and are prepared to quote you attractive prices. F.O.B. your loading point. We also buy all kinds of scrap metals at top prices.

Ask for price list.

We sell Water Well Casing, Pumps, Cylinders, Pipe, Shafting, Pulleys, Bearings, Belting, Running Gears, Barbed Wire, Saw Mandrels, Cordwood Saws.

Write for catalogue

**FARMERS MACHINERY
EXCHANGE**

1119-10th Ave. E., Calgary

David Stronach, and his employers, the Prudential Life Assurance Co., are being sued for \$15,000 damages by the widow of George Stebner of Ledue, killed by a car driven by Stronach in October.

Nine emergency landing fields between Lethbridge and Edmonton will be equipped with beacons and wind cones in the spring, stated H. Ainsworth of the Federal Department of Transport. It is planned to establish air mail service over the route later.

Convicted of the murder of George Pogmore of Byemore, Emmanuel Ernst was sentenced last Saturday to be hanged. Mrs. Pogmore, who, according to the evidence, had written numerous letters to Ernst urging him to kill her husband, is being tried this week.

His leg injured so that he could not stand upon it, Lawson Mortimer of Drumheller, crawled on his hands and knees for two miles for help for Howard Keats, pinned under his car when it overturned on the highway near Rosedale ferry. Mr. Keats is in Drumheller hospital, seriously injured.

That Premier Aberhart had advised Social Credit aldermen in Calgary to vote against increases in relief allowances, and against asking the Provincial Government to proclaim its legislation on reduction of interest on municipal debentures, were statements made over the radio last week by D. V. Mitchell, one of the three revolting aldermen.

DOMINION

Belgium's first minister to Canada, Robert Silvercrus, was appointed on Saturday.

The On-to-the-Bay Association of Canada held a one-day convention in Regina December 5th.

J.A. Raynault is the new mayor of Montreal, having secured a majority of nearly four thousand over ex-Mayor Houde.

Five C.C.F. candidates were successful in the Vancouver municipal elections recently—three aldermen, one trustee and one parks board commissioner.

He did not look upon the spread of Social Credit from Alberta to the other Provinces as probable, said Hon. T. A. Crerar, at a meeting of insurance men in New York.

Alderman George Miller is mayor-elect of Vancouver, having defeated three other candidates. The present mayor, "Gerry" McGeer was not a candidate.

The town of Trenton, Ontario, reports success in their experiment of payment of relief in scrip. Merchants who accept this scrip can redeem it at the local banks, by arrangement with the municipality.

The mother and seven of the nine children of the Brassard family, at Chicoutimi, Quebec, lost their lives when fire destroyed their home recently. The fire started when two trappers, who were sleeping in the back kitchen of the house, lit matches after their dog had knocked over a can of gasoline.

Strikes occurred recently in Hamilton, where some 400 or 500 employees of the Hamilton Cotton Company demanded a 12 per cent wage increase; at Point Edwards, where dock workers are reported to be gaining support for their strike; and at Niagara Falls where 50 employees walked out over dismissal of some of their number for joining a union.

The application of the National Dairy Council for a tariff on imported oils and fats, to the tariff board, is being met with hostility from chain stores, paint and varnish manufacturers and soap-makers.

J. S. Woodsworth, C.C.F. leader, on Friday last protested in a message to Premier Mackenzie King that the consent to King Edward's abdication by the Canadian Government order-in-council was an "usurpation of the powers of Parliament."

Canadian railway workers are endeavoring to get back the 10 per cent wage cut made in 1931. However, a spokesman for the railways declared before the wage conciliation board that increased pay could only be met by increased taxes or increased freight rates. He is not reported to have brought up the question of interest rates on bonded indebtedness nor profits shown by railway corporations.

WORLD

Drought in China during November will reduce the wheat acreage in Honan province by about 60 per cent, it is estimated.

The municipally-owned light and power plant at Springfield, Illinois, saved the citizens \$862,356 in reduced rates last year, and in addition made net earnings of \$209,974.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation set up by the U.S. Government, said to be the world's largest lending agency, has accumulated profits of about \$150,000,000, more than sufficient to offset possible losses, according to Jesse H. Jones, Chairman.

A proposal that the 21 republics of North and South America should form an alliance against outside aggression was made by Peruvian representatives at the peace conference now in session at Buenos Aires. A plan for arms limitation offered by Chile was believed to have little chance of approval.

Plans to keep down the corn acreage in the U.S. next year, following the short crop and high prices of the past season, are being made by the Department of Agriculture. Quotas will be assigned to corn-belt farmers; and \$500,000,000 will be paid for diversion of lands from the staple crops to other uses and for soil improvement programs.

Claims of J. P. Morgan & Co. for preference in the allocation of assets of the bankrupt Missouri Pacific railroad must give way to those of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, according to a recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court. Other decisions of the Supreme Court, since November, would seem to show that election results enable the judges to make different interpretations of the Constitution.

The unprecedented spectacle of prominent Conservative and Liberal members of Parliament joining forces with Communists where the Labor Party itself has refused co-operation in a "People's Front" standing for "freedom and democracy" against Fascism, is now being witnessed in Britain, where Robert Boothby, M.P., well-to-do businessman and Conservative M.P., Richard Acland, M.P., Liberal, and others dissatisfied with the old parties, have agreed upon a common program of "freedom and democracy." Mr. Acland declared "unless we do something new, Sir Oswald Mosley or some other worthless moron, will do it for us with truncheons, knuckle dusters, castor oil and even murder, as the dictators are doing all over Europe today." Winston Churchill is believed to be sympathetic to the People's Front movement.

Arrange Next Meeting of Co-operative Alliance in Paris for Coming Year

Representatives of 100,000,000 Co-operators to Attend International Gathering

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 16th.—The Executive Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance, meeting in Warsaw last month, made preliminary arrangements for the Fifteenth Triennial Congress of the International Co-operative Alliance which will be held in Paris, September 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th, 1937. The world conclave of co-operators will bring together representatives of 100,000,000 members of co-operative associations in 39 countries.

A co-operative press conference, bringing together editors of co-operative papers and magazines in each country will be held in conjunction with the International Congress. The Alliance Executive also announced that the 16th International Co-operative School will be held in Nancy, France, the first two weeks in July. The International Exhibition, which will also be held in Paris next year, will include a Co-operative Section representing different branches of the co-operative movement in France. The I.C.A. has also been invited to present an exhibit.

Crash of the Dutch airliner "K.L.M." just after it took off from Croydon, England, cost the lives of fourteen. Three survived.

King George VI will be crowned on May 12th, the date originally set for the coronation of his brother Edward VIII.

The South African "Greyshirts," a new Fascist organization, are planning an intensive drive for power, states a Johannesburg despatch.

A despatch from Frankfurt states that Germany's requirements of wheat for the coming year are a million bushels greater than her supply.

Fifty-four villages were inundated and thousands of people were drowned in a sudden flood of the Cagayan river, Luzon Island, one of the Philippines.

That a German Junkers warplane shot down a French aeroplane over Spanish territory last Wednesday was charged by the Spanish embassy in Paris.

Fire engines summoned by a false alarm and crashing through crowds of picketers, strikers and bystanders at the Sun Shipbuilding plant at Chester, Pa., killed one man and injured more than thirty others.

South-West Africa will not become another Province of the Union of South Africa, according to announcement of the Capetown government, which also opposes transferring the mandate over that territory to another power.

Co-operative societies of all kinds, in 57 countries, numbered 681,767 in 1934, according to statistics published in the new Year Book issued by the International Labour Office, at Geneva. Membership in these societies aggregated 147,533,194.

With both Moscow and Tokio governments holding the other responsible for the uprising in China this week, a dangerous situation exists in the Far East. China itself is under martial law, following the radio announcement of General Chang Hseuh-Liang that he had seized and executed General Chiang Kai-Shek and several of his aides. Chang demanded declaration of war with Japan and restoration of Manchukuo to China. Kai-Shek was regarded in some quarters as a tool of Japan.

HOPPINS WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE

Carl Unterschultz Second and Cereal U.F.A. Third in "The Leader" Competition

Wilfred Hoppins, of Huxley, who turned in a total of 53 subscriptions in the *Western Farm Leader's* contest which closed November 30th, won the first prize; Carl Unterschultz, of Fort Saskatchewan, with 48, secured second place; and Cereal U.F.A. Local, close behind, came third.

Mr. Hoppins, not finding it convenient to take a trip at this time, asked to have a Philco radio (second prize) instead; so radios of the model described in recent issues have been forwarded by the *Western Farm Leader* to both Mr. Hoppins and Mr. Unterschultz. The blankets have been shipped to the secretary of Cereal Local.

The *Western Farm Leader* congratulates the prize-winners; and at the same time wishes to express very cordial thanks to the many others

SECOND PRIZE WINNER



CARL UNTERSCHULTZ

who have been, and are, assisting the paper by getting subscriptions, and sending them in.

Easy to Get Subscriptions

Incidentally, Mr. Hoppins' report that he found it very easy to secure subscriptions, that people were very ready to produce a dollar for the paper and one of the premiums offered, is a source of real gratification.

In view of the fact that the subscriptions sent in by both Mr. Hoppins and Mr. Unterschultz were obtained from farm people living within a comparatively short radius of the farms upon which they live, the total number obtained is especially significant.

Mr. Hoppins was formerly President of the Junior U.F.A., and Mr. Unterschultz is Junior U.F.A. Director for Vegreville.

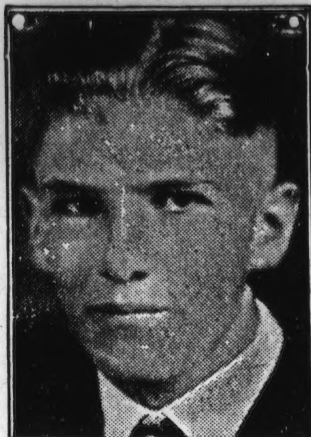
POLITICS—PRO (Continued from page 2)

to which the organization he was supposed to represent was now committed? And after all what was the C.C.F. but the practical expression of a statement made in 1921 by President H. W. Wood that, "the only hope of democratic progress is in the co-operation between organized democratic groups gradually learning to co-operate on the broad basis of a common democratic interest."

And so we see our highly paid representatives weakly drifting away from the organization from which they could have drawn both strength and inspiration, losing standing among the hard pressed farmers and finally becoming just a "push over" for the opportunists with Fascist tendencies that have now superseded them.

Can we blame politics for this? No, Mr. Editor, let us remember that whatever politicians may be, politics, as Mrs. Parlyb once said, is a science that touches for good or ill every phase of our daily lives, and it seems to me that to accept Mr. Johnston's counsels of despair, renounce the principle of Direct Representation and be reduced to supplicating for relief to

Wins First Prize



WILFRED HOPPINS

those so aptly described by William Irvine as the Political Servants of Capitalism would mean the death of the U.F.A. as a force for the emancipation of the farmers.

I would like to deal with the reference to the co-operative activity in the U.F.A. and the C.C.F., but this letter is getting over long, so I trust that the U.F.A. Co-operative Committee, having been brought into this discussion by Mr. Johnston to bolster up his case, will make a statement for themselves and so avoid any misunderstanding that may arise.

Yours truly,

J. W. LEE.

Evansburg, Alta.

OUR BASIS OF ACTION

R.R. 1, Ponoka, Alta.,
Dec. 12, 1936.

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

If you can find space in your valuable paper, please allow me in my humble manner to express my views on the important question, the U.F.A. and Political action.

We have as an organization, renounced competition as destructive and have accepted co-operation as constructive and adopted the philosophy of co-operation as our ideal. We, therefore, have carried on an educational program for co-operation, and have taken an active part in assisting every co-operative movement for the purpose of marketing farm produce as well as in consumers' co-operatives. While these efforts have met with more or less success, they are along the right line, but with a mixed population such as we have here in the West, growth may be too slow unless assisted by legislation.

Why Machinery Set Up

That brings us to the political effort of our organization, and here our Co-operative Ideal is again put into practical operation after following the two old political parties in their competition for power, which divide the people into two opposing forces, and which offer no basis for co-operation in the solution of the problems confronting the people. The U.F.A. therefore set up the necessary machinery for direct political action (realizing that, as farmers, our problems are identical and therefore we are in a position to co-operate in the exercise of our citizenship) and went about to elect representatives responsible to our organization who would in the Legislature and on the floor in Parliament, advocate the policy and programs as laid down by our Annual Conventions.

We also arranged to co-operate with other groups of citizens organized along similar lines and for a similar purpose. This was done. In constituencies where labor was in a majority, we co-operated with them in electing their representative; while in constituencies where farmers were in a majority, labor would co-operate with us in electing our representatives; but it must be conceded that in a Province basically agricultural a majority of representation of the farmers

is justified. However, we stand for co-operative or group government and have gone a long way toward making it possible. We gave Labor Cabinet Representation. The same was done with the citizens of Edmonton in the constituency represented by the Attorney General, Lymburn.

Proven Workable

We have thereby demonstrated that our political philosophy of co-operation is workable. The same applies in respect to our Federal Representatives in their election. While other groups of citizens of sufficient economic interest have not seen fit to organize to obtain representation, this is not our fault. We submit the only alternative so far offered that is in contrast to the party system. We feel that the Political Party System has the inherent weakness of aspiring to power mainly for the spoils of office, with its trail of Patronage.

We hear a lot these days in some places of the lack of faith in democracy. This is largely due to the lack of contact on the part of the average citizen with the Political Party set up. He has no say in respect to policy or legislative programs, and very little in the selection and election of a candidate, apart from marking a ballot on election day, and therefore assumes little or no further responsibility.

The U.F.A. by direct political action has gone a long way in the development of responsible citizenship. By each member having a direct opportunity through the Locals, the Constituency Associations and the Annual Conventions, to initiate, advocate and thereby direct the policy and program of our political activities, we learn to assume a greater amount of responsibility. In this way, government by the people and for the people, can be made more effective. The U.F.A. has carried on its political activities successfully for over fourteen years and has thereby contributed more to the political life of Canada than any other organization.

The Last Elections

That brings us down to the last general elections, and some of the reasons for our defeat. There may be several reasons for our defeat but I will mention only a couple of them, which I believe to be among the main reasons:

First: We have in the last few years almost ceased to advocate our political philosophy. This has resulted in a lack of appreciation on the part of our membership in our method and set up of our political activity. We have lost sight of the fact that we have absolute control over our own political machinery and that we finance our election campaigns and carry on our political activity by collections from our own membership, so that when we elect a representative he is responsible to our organization, and therefore expected to advocate and support in Parliament the legislative requests as laid down by the U.F.A. conventions. I believe this to have been one of the greatest weakening factors, because when an election campaign is on, there seems to be too much inconsistency in what is advocated. One speaker will advocate one thing and another will stress something else, till sight is lost of the fact that we have taken political action for a specific purpose; namely, that of occupational group representation which offers the only basis for co-operation in the solution of the problems confronting Governments.

The second reason for defeat is well known to all, namely, the absolute promise to solve all our troubles by the use of a fountain pen. However, I am not blaming the people for wanting to end this depression in the quickest possible manner, but I do blame those responsible for making the promise, when seemingly they have no remedy to apply. As time goes on we farmers will undoubtedly find that we have no direct representative to speak for the farmers in the Legislature and may also find that it will cost us farmers more than a few cents spent in carrying on our own political activities.

Therefore, let us not drop our direct political activities as an organization,

King Stepped from Throne for Her



Mrs. WALLIS WARFIELD SIMPSON

Would Conscript Wealth in War Time

Conscription of wealth and the total elimination of profit should be insisted upon by the people of Canada in the event of the Dominion being involved in war, William Irvine, C.C.F. organizer for Alberta, declared in an address in the Al Azhar Temple on Tuesday. Rev. T. C. Douglas, M.P., for Weyburn, said that the old pacifist position had become untenable, and that individual non-resistance would be a hopeless policy. Competitive arming by the nations was also futile as a preventative of war, as was the policy of isolation, which had become impossible in the modern world. The only policy which could prevent war was that of collective security, with economic sanctions, backed in the last resort by military sanctions.

for if we do, our requests of a legislative nature will receive little consideration, compared to the requests of an organization that may be regarded as able to again attain the power of government.

We have been criticized as a class government; this should surely not be a weakening factor to our organization and its political activity, for what other class in this Province is more entitled to a majority? For if by legislation, the farmers can be assisted, then all the people of the Province will benefit, and surely farmers should be the last to feel that this should be a reason for abandoning their direct political action. I am not suggesting that we can by political action, evoke prosperity, but I do believe that by direct political action we can assist agriculture, to a much greater extent than we can without it.

Further I do not believe we stand to gain in membership by weakening the effect of our organization by going out of politics.

Sincerely yours,

ROY VOLD,
President.

Ponoka Constituency Association.

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IN REPLY TO TWO CRITICS

Mrs. Heath Discusses Criticism of Article "No Country Safe From Danger"

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

As the affirmative side in a debate is allowed a little time for rebuttal perhaps, Mr. Editor, you will give me a little space to reply to two letters appearing in your issue of November 6th, in reply to my article of October 16th.

My mind turns back to that other November 11th, 1918, when the bells of Westminster boomed forth the news that the Armistice had been signed. But amid all the surface hysteria of that day, I remember best the sad eyes of bereaved men and women for whom the armistice had come too late. It is to them I dedicate my effort, small though it may be, to help, if only in the humblest way, to find a lasting road to Peace.

Foresight and Hindsight

Before passing on to the subject under discussion I must pay a tribute to Mrs. Zella Spencer for a remark in a recent letter of hers, as it covers a lot of this controversy: "It is always easier to have a wise hindsight rather than foresight." How wonderfully true, and if this were more widely and deeply realized, there would be less hurtful things said and implied, anent 1914.

Miss Archibald failed to take my article in the spirit in which it was written; this is evident in her "feeling of regret." She need have no feeling of regret, I have none. I set out with a definite objective in view and I feel I have, in a small measure, accomplished it, by "starting something." These two letters are not the only comments I have received. I cannot see much use in concerning myself with Margaret's letter, as it really offers nothing constructive along the lines of peace suggestions—who "wants to transplant grudges," who "wants to deal in lies," who "wants to arm against the United States," who "wants to acquiesce in barbarism"? Not I. Grudges, etc., of a different sort are being too plentifully planted here today for me to add to them; lies and half-lies, the breeders very often of grudges.

"Arm against the States"? Any student of world economics will tell you the States have a very decided menace hovering over them; we may yet be called on to prove our friendship to our neighbor. As to barbarism, I saw enough, years ago—I feel these questions are not relevant to the subject under discussion and to clear myself would take too long a letter for even the kindest of Editors to publish. But I humbly point out, however, in answer to the penultimate

paragraph of Miss Archibald's letter, that I DID tentatively offer 4 points, the study of which I thought might be of use in finding some avenues leading to the attainment of acceptable peace proposals; and it was these that I would have liked to have discussed at length with Miss Archibald, also, that which vitally bears on it all, the question of an Isolation Policy for Canada.

Answer to Two Jibes

The second letter, from Mr. Harris Hanson (whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting), interested and pleased me; it was well thought out and made me feel that he had perhaps visioned what I was aiming to do. I think perhaps, there were two unnecessary jibes in this letter, which were not worthy of the writer. So let's get them out of the way first.

He says, the youth of 1914 had, "applause, cheering, and brass bands." I beg to differ, we had mud, blood, broken bodies and horrors, and above all our precious youth—WASTED. I know only too well that that is the unvarnished truth.

Secondly—I quote: "Is there not fear here, hate too, and maybe, jealousy?" I do not quite follow this. If it be intended to refer to personal feelings, I consider the remark unjust and unnecessary. As a fellow-worker for peace (maybe along different lines) personal feelings do not enter into the argument.

Mr. Hanson states that I put the blame on us women for this attitude. However, I note the letter states the Juniors took this stand unaided. Certainly in the women's conventions of '35 and '36, a very great emphasis was laid on the heroism of this attitude, and much was said on the subject. Also, from my own contacts, I would say much encouragement was given by the women.

I would like Mr. Hanson to get this straight, if he really thinks this attitude will accomplish peace—all well and good. I feel it is impossible to accomplish a lasting peace in this passive way, and which of us is right I do not presume to say. It needs much constructive thought and exhaustive discussion.

Youth and Criticism

May I ask Mr. Hanson a question anent his fifth paragraph? Honestly, would or does youth ever listen to constructive criticism? Believe me, I do not ask this in any cavilling spirit, but from the tenor of the two letters published, I doubt it; from my own memories I doubt it! Youth today stands squarer on its two feet than twenty years ago, and will it be swayed by "old folks," twenty years senior? Travelling, (and there was no jibe intended in my original remark) and reliving 1914, do not help at all unless it is with the understanding of one who LIVED through that time, and has no desire for present-day youth to live through an even worse experience.

Perhaps what caused me to write for publication was that my private feelings might assist in clearing the minds of these two young people as to my good intentions. One afternoon I read a very clever article by a young man anent the futility (which we all now allow) of 1914. He set out to

May Become Queen of England



Upon the accession of the Duke of York to the throne as King George VI, the ten-year-old princess shown above became heir presumptive. She is Princess Elizabeth, the elder of two daughters of the King and Queen.

prove that if 1914 youth had had the admirable qualities of 1936 youth it would never have happened, pointing out that our loved ones' deaths, our own sufferings, and wasted youth, were unnecessary and slightly ridiculous. It hurt.

My next reading that afternoon happened to be about an important man, in a powerful country, proclaiming that his country (I won't give the name for fear of being accused of vindictiveness) needed colonies, and pointing out the advantages of Canada for colonization, adding that there were already many of his countrymen settled there. Following that I read the account of Lord Tweedsmuir's speech in Calgary,—then I got busy, remembering the very interesting discussions we had had in our local on the question of an isolation policy for Canada.

Study "Avenues for Peace"

I am glad the writer agrees with me on the causes of war, and that he thinks there is some merit in my suggestions for study, for that is what I want discussed—avenues to ensure peace, not re-hashing of 1914. Since writing the first article I have read some very startling immigration figures, and I believe that a study of immigration is relevant to the whole matter, and could well be added to the list of measures to study for the furtherance of peace.

I suppose Mr. Hanson has read "Cry Havoc." I feel the "letter to Mr. Wells" is very helpful for pacifists seeking after truth. Think well on the passage which starts: "War is no more ended by saying, 'no more war' and 'I stand out' and declaring that every government that went into the Great War was just as bad as any other and indeed on the whole worse, than is burglary to be ended by speaking in tones of remonstrance

to a policeman who used his truncheon."

In closing may I thank Mr. Smith for the space given and many others for the interest shown, even if not all are in agreement with my viewpoint.

Yours sincerely,

BEATRICE E. HEATH.

Lacombe, Alta.

Activities of Farm Women's Locals

Two teas and a home cooking and fancy work sale netted \$97.26 for Gleichen U.F.W.A. during the year.

Strathmore U.F.W.A. elected as officers for 1937 Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Wm. Risdon and Mrs. Walter Risdon.

Mrs. J. Toule, Mrs. E. Blades and Mrs. G. L. Blades are the new officers of Willowdale U.F.W.A.

Mrs. Swain Swainson is president of Burnt Lake U.F.W.A., with Mrs. B. C. Learned as vice-president and Mrs. H. Buckleys' secretary.

Travers U.F.W.A. report a very

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3050
Emb 717

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Style No. 3050 is designed for sizes 16, 18 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48 and 50-inches bust. Size 36 requires 5-5/8 yards of 39-inch material with 5/8 yard of 27-inch or wider contrasting for vestee. Embroidery No. 717 costs ten cents extra.

successful chicken supper. At this time a quilt was raffled, bringing in a nice sum.

Starline U.F.W.A. held a meeting to read several bulletins and book reviews that had been crowded out from previous programs. Mrs. P. L. Johnston was hostess, assisted by Mrs. G. E. Toone.

Members of Willow Springs U.F.W.A. are delighted with the next year's program sent out from Central Office, writes Miss M. Rafn, secretary. This Local made a profit of over \$18 from their annual chicken supper, which was as well a very pleasant occasion.

Meeting last week at the home of Mrs. Kvestad, Grand Meadow U.F.W.A. elected as officers Mrs. A. E. Kvestad, Mrs. A. E. Elofson, Mrs. J. T. Auten and Mrs. L. E. Elofson. They had a very successful banquet in November, and interesting meetings during the year.

Mrs. L. Hiatt, Mrs. C. Coonfer, Mrs. N. Winters, were elected officers for next year at the annual meeting of Dalemead U.F.W.A. Mrs. F. Fulton and Miss Gladys Coonfer are Junior Supervisors, and Mrs. E. Schang delegate to the Convention. This Local have made quilts for the burnt-out families near Cochrane.

Farm Home and Garden

Twelfth Night Cake: Half lb. shortening, 7 oz. brown sugar, 4 eggs, 2 tablespoons molasses, quarter teaspoon soda; 2 teaspoons baking powder, 2 cups raisins, 2 cups dates, 2 tablespoons almonds, 2 tablespoons peel, 3/4 teaspoon mixed spices, 2-1/2 cups flour. This cake is a good "keeper."

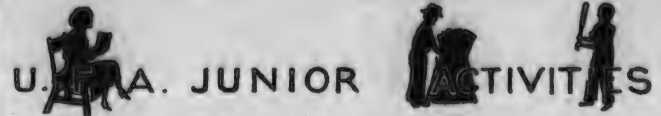
Cocoa Pecan Bars: Slice stale bread and remove crusts, cutting into one-inch strips. Cover all sides with a paste made of 1 tablespoon cocoa, 2 tablespoons sugar, half cup milk, brought to the boil; roll in chopped nut meats; place on buttered pans and brown in very moderate oven.

Spiced Fruit Cookies: Sift together 2-1/2 cups flour, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/2 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt; rub in 3/4 cup butter; add 3/4 cup sugar, 2 beaten eggs, grated rind of two lemons, 1/2 cup shredded candied orange peel, 1 cup currants; add milk to make a very stiff batter. Bake in a moderate oven.

Jellied Chicken Loaf: Cover a five-pound fowl with hot water, and cook with 1 carrot, 1 onion, 4 sticks of celery, and salt, until tender. Remove the fowl and let the stock simmer until reduced to half its quantity. Soften 1 tablespoon gelatine in two of cold water, add to the stock, and stir well. Rinse a mould in cold water, then arrange on the bottom slices of hard-boiled egg, then slices of dark and light meat alternately; cover with the stock and chill.

Feeding Pullets: To get eggs in quantity, the pullets must be well fed. At the Dominion Experimental Station at Fredericton, a dry mash is before the hens at all times; it is made of 100 lbs. each of ground oats, middlings, bran and corn meal, 25 lbs. each of fish meal and meat scrap, 15 lbs. bonemeal, 5 lbs. each charcoal and fine salt, and, during the fall and winter, 10 lbs. cod liver oil. Sour skim milk or buttermilk makes an excellent supplement, or may be used instead of the fish meal and meat scrap. In addition, whole grain (two parts wheat and one each of cracked corn, barley and oats) is fed in the litter night and morning. Pure water, oyster shell and grit are always available and green feed is supplied every day.

Children under the age of 11 made up 27 per cent of the pedestrians killed on streets and roads in the British Isles in 1935.



"COMPETITION THE LIFE OF TRADE"

But Competitive Trade is the Death of the People

By WILLIAM RUNTE

Offers \$5.00 Prize for Essay on Peace

Those who oppose the establishment of a co-operative order of society tell us with tears in their eyes that competition is the life of trade and for that reason cannot be replaced by co-operation.

They forget to tell us that competitive trade is also the death of the people. If you study the wars of the last century, you will find that almost without exception they were fought for trade.

In this article I propose to deal only with one—the Great European War of 1914-1918.

A Trade War

The economic or trade war between England and Germany had been going on for years before 1914. As far back as 1907 the number of Germans engaged in mining, metal works and other industries was 11,256,254. In all the other German industries combined, including agriculture, cattle raising, forestry, hunting, fishing, trade, commerce, professions, domestic, and other services, including those without profession or occupation, there were 20,240,846. That meant that over one third of all the employed and employable people in Germany were engaged in what was really the iron and steel industry.

That was the German census of June 12th, 1907, more than seven years before the insane butchery began. In those seven years steel made in Germany was sold in all parts of the world. Even in British Colonies (as Canadians well know) steel made in Germany was taking the place of the finest Sheffield steel. And then 1914. Not once did any country engaged in that war do anything which would make trade bear the burden.

The Treaty and After

If the war was fought for the people and not for trade, why were the soldiers forced to go and nothing done to

Mrs. Beatrice E. Heath, of Lacombe, has written us that she will award a prize of \$5 for the best essay of not more than one thousand words on the subject: "My suggestions for the furtherance of Peace." Mrs. Heath, in a letter to the editor, makes this offer, and suggests the appointment of a committee of three to act as judges. The names of the judges will be published later. One will be Mrs. Heath, who suggests the editor of *The Western Farm Leader* as another.

To be eligible the writer of every essay must be a member of the Junior U.F.A., or in any districts where there is no Junior Local, a son or daughter of a member of the U.F.A. or U.F.W.A., and either a subscriber or the son or daughter of a subscriber to *The Western Farm Leader*.

trade? Why was the C.P.R. not forced to carry the soldiers, the guns, the ammunition and other means of warfare free? Why were the munitions makers given the privilege of selling their guns and powder to the government for any price they cared to ask? Why weren't the shoes, the uniforms and the bully beef all confiscated? Surely, this is proof enough that the war was fought for trade and that no matter what happened, nothing must be done to interfere with it.

But let's look at the treaty at the close of the war. The German fleet was destroyed, we were told in school (thanks to our enlightened system of education) so that the Germans could not start another war. These vicious barbarians had to be kept down.

But less than four years later there appeared in Germany Canadian posters in almost every district. These posters were even larger than the ones we saw last fall which shouted, "Let us cut the cords that strangle Canada's trade." They were so large that Germans could not help seeing their large letters, "Fr is Reise nach Nord America," which meant free passage to North America. We were actually coaxing these terrible people to come to Canada after they had murdered good Canadians in France.

But Canadians did not shiver at the thought. Why should they? It was trade for the transportation systems to bring them, and that's what their own young men had been murdered for. They had to come on the Canadian Pacific. The German fleet was destroyed for that reason.

Lest there still remains a doubting Thomas who thinks that the German fleet was destroyed to keep Germany from starting another war or because it was German may I just remind him that a large number of good honest Canadian trucks built in Canadian factories by Canadians had been purchased by the Canadian Government towards the close of the war, and had never been used. Canadians could have used them for productive purposes, but what happened to them? Their fate was the same as that of the German fleet. Did Canadians destroy them so they could not start another war? I could give many other cases where trade was the death of the people, but space forces me to close.

In doing so may I express the hope that you will let competitive trade die so that the people may live.

HOW IT BEGAN By Paul F. Berdanier

BISCUIT

EARLY FRENCH BAKERS INVENTED THIN, FLAT CAKES, BAKED TWICE TO EXPEL ALL MOISTURE, AS BREAD FOR SOLDIERS AND TRAVELERS, SO THAT THEIR KEEPING QUALITY WAS IMPROVED. FROM LATIN "BIS" (TWICE) AND "COQUO" (COOK) THIS BREAD WAS NAMED "BISCUIT."



GOLD-BRICK SWINDLE

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN GOLDSMITHS, BY COMBINING CADMIUM WITH COPPER, MADE IT LOOK LIKE GOLD, THUS CHEATING THE CUSTOMERS AND GAINING AN UNSAVORY REPUTATION. THIS WAS THE FIRST "GOLD-BRICK SWINDLE."

WHEAT AT HIGHEST LEVELS ATTAINED IN PAST SIX YEARS

Buying on Unprecedented Scale—
Accumulating Stocks for War?
—Broomhall Estimates
Raised

Buying of Canadian wheat on a scale unprecedented for years, and indications that Europe will require a greater volume of wheat than earlier anticipated, shot prices up on the exchange to levels not attained for six years. Tuesday wheat jumped 5c a bushel.

Broomhall has raised his estimates of world requirements to 565 million bushels. Italy and Germany may need to import 100 million bushels between them. France and the Orient also have been importers. Canada's supplies have diminished at a very rapid rate. Argentina has a good crop, but it looks as though most of the surplus wheat will be needed this year.

Unsettled conditions in Europe and the possibility of wheat stores being accumulated by Britain as part of a safety program in the event of war, have added fuel to the "bullish" flame.

The unfortunate part of all this is that the great majority of western farmers have already sold their wheat and will not participate in the increased prices. They could not deliver to the Wheat Board this year due to the restrictions placed upon that body's activities by the Federal Government.

Review of Livestock Markets

CALGARY STOCKYARDS, Dec. 17th.—The cattle market has been slow with a weak undertone. There have been no sheep or lambs sold this week. Hogs sold as follows: selects \$7.15, hams \$6.65, butchers \$6.15, off trucks. Good butcher steers were \$4.25 to \$4.50, common to medium \$2.50 to \$3.75. Good to choice butcher heifers sold at \$3.25 to \$4.25, common to medium \$2.00 to \$3.00. Good cows were \$2.00 to \$2.25, common to medium \$1.10 to \$1.75. Good veal calves were \$3.50 to \$4.50, common to medium \$2.00 to \$3.25. Good fed calves sold at \$4.00 to \$4.25.

Milk and Cream Prices

All butter markets advanced from 1/4 to 1/2 cent per pound with a firm undertone. The local print market advanced 1 cent per pound, effective Monday, December 14th. Cream deliveries continue to hold up well due to favorable weather. Cream quotations remain unchanged from those of the past month. Churn cream is based on 24 cents for special grade, delivered Calgary. City milk is \$2.35 per cwt., for 3.6 butter fat. Table cream 32 cents.

Of interest to farmers are new bulletins issued by the Federal Department of Agriculture—"Package Bees in Manitoba," "A Study of the Dressed Hog," and "Silage Production." They can be obtained from the King's Printer at Ottawa.

Producer Control Over Marketing Is Delegates' Desire

Every Province Represented at Recent Meeting of Canadian Chamber of Agriculture

By OBSERVER

Desire for marketing legislation giving producers of farm products some control over the marketing of these, is general in every section of Canada. Alberta delegates to the Chamber of Agriculture meeting in Toronto reported on their return. Every Province was represented by men who have given long study to the problems of marketing, the delegates stated, and there was unanimity of opinion as to the ultimate solution of these, viz: through Federal and Provincial legislation, proven valid, that will give those who carry the risk of production the right of organization for the purpose of efficiently moving their goods to the final market.

Would Retain Statutes

What the delegates at this first annual Canadian Chamber of Agriculture most desired, it is understood, is the retention on the statutes of Canada, of the present Natural Products Marketing Act with such passages of it as are ultra vires amended in such a way that the entire act is within the competence of Parliament. They realized there are difficulties in the way of this ideal, and their representations to the Federal Government, it is stated, were for the inclusion in new legislation of the essential powers granted under the Marketing Act.

From this distance it would seem that the working out of a common policy for Canada by representatives of the actual producers in this important question of marketing was an accomplishment fully justifying the creation of the Chamber of Agriculture. It is such work as this that falls within the purview of such a body, and, if by consolidating viewpoints on such matters, and making representations to Governments of these viewpoints in behalf of the farming community, the Governments can be brought to consider the producer-angles of these sometimes perplexing questions, then the Chamber of Agriculture deserves every support it can be given.

In the present instance, that of studying present marketing conditions and making a definite recommendation to the Federal Government, we understand the delegation from the Canadian Chamber of Agriculture that waited upon the Federal Minister of Agriculture was accorded a lengthy and sympathetic hearing. We have no doubt that the Federal Minister will give study to the proposals submitted to him, and it is to be hoped his consideration will find reflection in the granting of the recommendation of the delegation.

German editors, under Hitler's regime, have to make their jokes with great discretion. One periodical was recently suppressed for publishing a humorous dictionary of foreign terms, including "Hokuspokus—see politics. Optimist—an incurable. Character—an obstacle to one's career. Absurd—when one hopes for a better future."

POLITICS—CON
(Continued from page 3)
and every other free institution? They crush them quickly.

We are very late in the field as co-operators. It is reasonable to believe that the financial "power behind the throne" will either have seated itself on the throne or else have been driven from power by an awakened electorate, before co-operatives will have had time to reorganize society to a safe and sane basis. Be this as it may. Let co-operatives proceed with all speed. But let those who want to "change the system" or want a "New Deal" for Canada get together under some name—any name or no name. We can scrap among ourselves to the limit over details of thought, but even though doing that we have got to unite on common principles of action, or ours will be the fate of divided reformers in Italy or Germany.

Not Political Action, but Inaction
Not Political action did not wreck the U.F.A. It was political inaction that wrecked it. Suppose that Alberta was a mere Gideon's Band to face the financial dictatorship of Canada, suppose that there was great risk of political defeat in seeking to implement the points of the C.C.F. program that were within the authority of the Province. The duty of the U.F.A. Government was to have implemented the expressed will of the U.F.A. convention. Such action involved taking their political life in their hands. What would have happened we do not know. The majority in 1935 might have supported it or defeated the program as they had done in B.C. and Saskatchewan, but what matter if it were in line with the inevitable path of progress. History has indicated here also that "He who saveth his (political) life shall lose it."

I. V. MACKLIN.

Grande Prairie.

Editor, *The Western Farm Leader*:

I wouldn't break into this political argument only that I think the rank and file should express an opinion. Since reading the letters, pro and con, I have been debating in my own mind and have come to this conclusion:

We didn't lose at the polls on account of anything we did, neither on account of things we did not do. We lost because we were the party in power for the last fourteen years and the people were still poor. We left a record behind of which we are proud. No one yet has been able to point a finger of scorn at the work done (even the mess failed to gain a point).

No, we lost because we could not make promises we knew could not be fulfilled under a system of private ownership. If our U.F.A. must die on this account, let us die behind our colors at the funeral. Our work will be an outstanding monument to those who took the organization to be the object the organization stood for. The field will then be clear for those who think they can do better.

There should be a greater distinction between the farm organization and the political organization.

G. RAY ROBISON.
Chinook, Alberta.

At least 35,000 thin cattle have been shipped from drought areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan to Eastern Canada under the Federal Government's free freight plan, said Jack Byers, manager of the Western Stock Growers' Association. Mr. Byers declared the plan an unqualified success.

Newly constructed highways and reconditioning of formerly almost impassable roads, connect the region of Lake Baikal, in Siberia, with Okhotsk, thus providing an alternative outlet to Vladivostok on the Pacific.

Compositions made from soy beans and other vegetable products will in future largely take the place of wood for furniture and of fabrics for clothing and other purposes, prophesied C. B. Fritzsche, of the National Chemurgic Council in Columbus, O., recently.

Call Issued to 29th Annual Convention

Basis of Representation One Delegate for Every Ten Members

The call to the twenty-ninth Annual Convention of the United Farmers has just been sent out by Miss Eileen Birch, Provincial Secretary.

The Convention will be held this year in Calgary, in the Palliser Hotel, from January 19th to 22nd.

Marking a change from previous years, representation will be on the basis of one delegate for each ten paid-up members; each U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Local in good standing, however, and each Junior Local, will be entitled to one delegate. Joint Locals having five or more women members will be entitled to one delegate to the U.F.W.A. Convention, to be held concurrently.

The Pool rate estimate is \$11; transportation of delegates travelling by car will be based on the rail fare from their nearest station. Reduced return rates can be obtained from the railways from January 15th to 21st, and also from the Central Canadian Greyhound Bus Lines. Standard certificates should be secured when tickets are purchased.

On the Monday evening, before the Convention opening, beginning at nine o'clock, a get-together dance will be held in the Palliser dining-room, with a nominal admission charge of 25 cents.

Canadian exhibitors at the International Livestock, Hay and Grain show, at Chicago, made the best showing in the 37 years of the show's history.

Only a small volume of scrip was turned in for redemption during the fourth redemption period, ending December 12th, stated Government officials.

Ranchers and farmers in the southern part of Turner Valley have formed a Land Owners' Protective Association. A resolution of the new organization asks that compensation from oil companies be based not on the value of the acreage involved but on the damage to the farm property as a unit; also that the board of Public Utility Commissioners be enlarged by two, one of them a farmer or rancher.

The death recently of O. P. Van Sweringen, surviving brother of the Van Sweringen railway magnates, makes uncertain the future control of the 23,000-mile American system which they had acquired. The brothers had started as newsboys, building up a huge fortune by modern "robber baron" methods. Inquiry into financing of the railroad by the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, shows that in the last year or two it has changed hands several times, and that the man who now holds the controlling interest purchased securities worth three billions for a little more than a tenth of that amount. Previously, the same securities had been held by J. P. Morgan, and the committee has not yet had any explanation of the fact that his banking house let them go for the proverbial "song."

ALBERTA TURKEYS
Famous for Meat Type and Early Maturing Qualities.
Government Inspected and Banded
Grade A Toms, 25-30 lbs. \$15.00
Grade A Young Hens, 16-20 lbs. 10.00
Grade B Toms, 24-30 lbs. 8.00
Grade B Young Hens, 15-18 lbs. 7.00
Grade C Toms, 22-28 lbs. 6.00
Grade C Young Hens, 14-18 lbs. 5.00
ALBERTA BRONZE TURKEY BREEDERS' ASSN.
Box 103 Edmonton Alberta

EMPIRE HOTEL
CALGARY
THE FARMERS' CITY HOME
Cleanliness - Comfort
LOW RATES



Gold Medal Hog Supplement

(WITH COD LIVER OIL)

MR. HOG FEEDER:

You cannot feed hogs at present market on grain only and break even.

But you can make a profit if you add GOLD MEDAL HOG SUPPLEMENT.

University of Alberta report No. 141 says:

	Consumption	Cost
Straight grain hogs.....	100 lb. grain	\$4.23
Grain-Supplement hogs.....	102 lb. grain	\$3.58
	704 lbs.	

SOLD BY WILLIAMS BROS.

ANDERSON GRAIN & FEED CO., LTD.
and All Stores

Cost f.o.b. Calgary
\$2.95 per Cwt.

RUMORS persist to the effect that the Board of Review under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act is being subjected to a great deal of direct and indirect criticism from the various creditor groups.

It is whispered that some of the Banks, Trust and Loan Companies and Farm Machine Companies have not only filed the most vigorous complaints to the Board itself, but have complained bitterly to the Minister of Finance at Ottawa with respect to certain proposals which the Board has recently made.

Basis of Criticism

Since the summer vacation the Board has been fixing a rate of interest of five per cent in the majority of cases coming before it. This is in itself objectionable to certain creditor groups. But another practice of the Board seems to have aroused even greater ire. That is the practice of trying to bring all debts down to a basis of not more than seventy per cent of the appraised value of the debtor's land and livestock.

The Board has adopted this practice in the belief that it is not only reasonable but gives some assurance and encouragement to the farmer that the farm can pay out the debts as adjusted.

Some creditors, however, take the position that debts should not be reduced below the full value of a farmer's land, livestock and farm machinery. In other words no matter how badly he has suffered in the past from drought, hail, low prices, and high interest rates, the farmer must still mortgage his entire investment, representing his life's work, for the benefit of his creditors. In still other words he must shoulder the greatest part of the burden of the world depression.

Handwriting on Wall

Now the handwriting on the wall has been fairly plain the past twelve months, written in characters that can not easily be mistaken.

Financial and creditor interests should by now realize that the farmer is not going to assume that burden.

Even the *Financial Post* of Toronto realizes that recent Provincial legislation was largely brought about by the unwillingness of Eastern interests to make some concession to meet the debt problem of the West. Had the Board of Review, in the first year of its operations, adopted the same general basis of adjustment as it is adopting today, in all probability no Provincial legislation would have been passed. In the suggestion above mentioned, the creditors are really asking the Board to return to the basis of its first year's operation and we are witnessing almost daily the proof that the majority of the early settlements cannot be carried out. The debt reduction problem in its entirety can only be worked out on a basis which gives the debtor courage to carry on because of his belief and conviction that he can win through.

Should Have Public Support

The Board has a difficult job to perform. It probably has made mistakes. In some cases it may have gone too far and in some not far enough. But in the main its proposals now are practical and can be carried out and it should have the support of the general public in the work it is now doing. And unless Eastern Canada wants to risk even more drastic debt legislation than they have yet seen, creditor bodies had better accept the general idea behind the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act and submit to the basis of adjustment which the Board, after two years' experience, now feels necessary.

Replies to Questions:

Perplexed: You ask if I would advise an application to the Debt

Policy of Board of Review Resented by Some Creditor Interests

Cutting of Interest to 5 Per Cent and of Principal to 75 Per Cent Basis of Criticism—But Farmers Cannot Assume Whole Burden

By HON. J. E. BROWNLEE, K.C., LL.D.

Adjustment Board. I wonder if you mean the Board of Review under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act? The Debt Adjustment Board has authority to intervene with your creditor at your request but has no power to compel a reduction of your debt. The Board of Review has such power. To make an application to the Board of Review there must be more than one debt—at least two. Your land debt and unpaid taxes is sufficient. The Board of Review depends largely on a valuation of the land by the Soldier Settlement Board. If you consider a fair value of your land and livestock is over \$11,000.00 I would advise accepting the offer. If a fair value is under that sum I would advise an application to the Board.

X.Y.Z.: Under the new Debt Adjustment Act you can deduct from the one-third share of the crop, one third of threshing costs and one year's taxes if you produce a receipt showing payment. As your mortgage was apparently given before July 1st, 1932, it comes under the recent Debt Reduction Act and I think you are dealing very fairly with the mortgage company if you make the payment suggested, and they cannot ask for more. The amount due for interest is all they can collect in any event. Just send them the money asking that it be applied as required by the Debt Reduction Act. The company will probably not do this, but if the Act is declared valid you will get credit according to its provisions anyway.

I would have to have more information before replying to your second inquiry as there are a number of circumstances in which a judge might make such an order.

T.A.: Yes, you can set off the amount you owe against the amount owing to you. In other words, if you can prove the debt owing to you, you can hold back that amount from what you have to pay, and you can hold back the grain.

If the building is on skids and therefore moveable and you can show

that there was never any intention of making it a permanent fixture to the land you can move it. This statement is made without any knowledge of the terms of your lease. If you have a written lease, you should examine it carefully to see if there is any reference in it to buildings or erections on the land.

Note: Mr. Brownlee will answer on this page legal questions submitted by subscribers to *The Western Farm Leader*. This valuable service is available to paid up subscribers only. Some answers to questions are held over until our next issue.

The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society has guaranteed £10,000 for the Scottish Commonwealth Exhibition to be held in 1938, when the wide range of co-operatively manufactured goods will be shown to the public.

Junior News Items

Current Events were reported in answer to the roll call at the last meeting of Willow Springs Juniors. A committee was appointed to look after the New Year's Eve dance planned by the Local.

Lincoln U.F.A. Junior Local, near Lacombe, was organized by Margaret Archibald recently. Bert Bradley was elected secretary and Phyllis Rice president.

"Resolved, that the youth of today have greater opportunities for attaining human happiness than thirty years ago" was the subject of a debate recently between Bismark and Spruceville Junior Locals. There was a good audience, and an interesting evening was spent.

URGE PRICE-FIXING BOARD

Charles Parkyn of Wilkie, one of our Saskatchewan readers, has asked us to give publicity to a resolution passed by the Marrow Lake Local Lodge of the U.F.C. protesting against the refusal of the Dominion Government to reinstate the Wheat Board in effective operation; stating that it would be useless to fix the price of one commodity without fixing the price of all, including the things the farmer has to buy in order to establish equality between all classes of citizens; and urging finally that farmers of Western Canada refuse to begin seeding operations in 1937 until the Federal Government establishes "a Price Fixing Board with power to fix the purchase price of all manufactured goods in direct proportion to the selling price of all farm products."

Urging the Alberta Government, in the face of widespread distress, to make all possible haste in the introduction of their platform, a motion was adopted by Midnapore U.F.A. at its last meeting, held at the home of M. Shaw. During the evening a most interesting talk on co-operation was given by Mr. Priestley, Vice-President of the U.F.A., writes Jackson M. Howard, secretary, who adds, "everybody was keenly interested in the topic and eager to find a remedy for the depressing conditions of the times."

WHEAT PRODUCERS' EVIDENCE

(Continued from page 1)

a minimum price having some relation to the cost of production. He suggested 95c as a reasonable figure.

William McQuarrie testified that he believed marketing movements were "managed and manipulated to the detriment of producer and consumer." He was not opposed to the operations of the grain exchange but believed there should be some measure of government regulation of the wheat futures market.

In Winnipeg, Dr. W. F. Geddes, cereal chemist, told of the results of his investigations in Europe during the past summer. He said European millers have found ways of baking satisfactory bread with the low quality flour ground from European wheat. One of these methods is to wash gluten out of forth-break Canadian flour and add it to the wheat flours of European origin. He said that Canada is still growing the world's premium wheat, but other nations are improving the quality of their wheat and catching up somewhat on the Dominion.

Not the Answer

Dr. Geddes thought that the advertising of Canadian wheat and flour in Europe was not an answer to the problem which centres on the determination of European countries to be self-sufficient. Further, these countries will only trade with nations who trade with them, and Canada has not been favored because apparently she dislikes the barter system. Dr. Geddes said that apparently consumers in Europe were not particular about the quality of their bread, considering it only a foundation for butter and jam. The increase in the mix of Canadian wheat in British bread this year did not seem to impress itself as an improvement on British consumers.

Dr. H. C. Grant suggested that the greatest hope in Europe was increasing prosperity, which would change the trend in agriculture from wheat to the production of more expensive foods, particularly meats. C. H. Wilson, Federal statistician, said that the marketing of wheat was a matter of government supervision or operation in virtually every important wheat growing country in the world. The common practice in importing countries is to impose a prohibitive duty on wheat and then to arrange duty free importations on the barter basis.

Effect of Tariffs

C. B. Davidson, secretary of the Canadian Wheat Board, said the Canadian tariff on imports, principally textiles, has more to do with the reduction in Canada's wheat trade than any other factor. The other countries, notably Argentina, grabbed the United States' share of world wheat trade when that country dropped out of the world export business, and Australia stepped in to increase her percentage too to a lesser extent, but Canada lost out due to the tariff policies of the Dominion.

Strange to say not a single expert advanced the theory that the Wheat Pools were responsible for the decline in Canada's wheat exports or increased wheat production in Europe. For years Canada has been inundated with propaganda calculated to leave that impression. The experts, however, seem to have an entirely different opinion.

EDMONTON TANNERY

9272-110A Avenue

EDMONTON ALBERTA

Edmonton's Pioneer Custom Tannery

TANNERS of:
HARNESS LEATHER
LACE LEATHER
RAWHIDE LEATHER
BEEF AND HORSEHIDE ROBES
BUFFALO SKINS

We will exchange One Finished Buffalo Robe for 600 pounds of Beef Hides; or One, made to measure, Buffalo Coat for 1,300 pounds of Beef Hides.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

PINEDALE FARM SHORTHORN BULLS and females. Frank Ballhorn, Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

CFCN

"The Voice of the Prairies"

extends to the farm people

Christmas Greetings

and Best Wishes for

A Happy and Prosperous
New Year

By SYDNEY MAY

Hello, Folks!

Not long since the *Herald* bawled out the *Calgary Albertan* for lifting a *Toronto Star* editorial and passing it off as its own.

That's nothing, the person masquerading as the comic columnist of the *Albertan* is doing that sort of thing nearly every day.

Many moons ago, when Mustard and Cress appeared as a feature of the *Calgary Herald*, we printed the following verses:

THE PRISONER'S SONG

Jack and Jill went up the hill
At 60 miles or better;
A cop behind
Was right unkind—
They're seeking bail by letter.
—Saint John "Times-Star"

Up the hill go Jack and Jill—
The judge was stern in talking—
They won't get through
In time to do

CALGARY'S FRIENDLY STATION

A Very

Merry Christmas

from Everyone at

CFAC

and "Good Listenin' "

in 1937

Oscar
The Office Boy

CFAC
930 K.C.
16 HOURS DAILY

SPORT

What's Doing?
at CFAC

There are six teams in the Alberta senior hockey league, two from Edmonton, two from Calgary and one each from Drumheller and Olds. The two Calgary teams, the Rangers and the Bronks, got away to an early start due to the presence of artificial ice rink in Calgary. The Rangers are top of the league, having been undefeated at the time of writing. They have a smooth, well-coached team and their defence is much improved by the addition of Watt and with two such excellent goal keepers as Jefferies and McNamara.

The Bronks have strengthened considerably but have yet to take the measure of the Rangers. Before the season ends the Bronks should show to better advantage. The coach, Archie McTeer, will get his team playing synchronized hockey and this should bring results.

The Drumheller Miners, always a tough team to beat, started slowly this year and should improve. The team is a combination of novices and veterans, Gustason, O'Brien, Badger and Wright having functioned for the Miners for years. The younger players should improve with the advice and inspiration of the old-timers.

The Olds Elks are a youthful team in a tough field of competition. The boys have hardly the experience to cope with the rest of the teams but they are anything but quitters. A couple of experienced key-men might transform this team.

Edmonton is represented by the Superiors and the Dominions. They are both good teams and will be better later on. Edmonton must always be counted upon to turn out soundly coached hockey teams, always in the running.

At the time of writing Laurie Aurie, of Detroit Wings, is leading the goal scorers in the Big League with Schriner and Herb Lewis (both Calgary products) tied for second place. . . . Doug Young, Gleichen boy, and star defence man for the Detroit Wings, sustained a broken ankle. . . . The Colville boys (Edmonton) are showing up well with the N. Y. Rangers. . . . The Maple Leafs have a terrible time trying to get going this year. Harvey Jackson seems to have lost his scoring knack. Hainsworth is with Les Canadiens.

FARM PAMPHLETS

Recent pamphlets issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture include the following, of interest to Alberta farmers: Handbook of Canadian Spring Wheat Varieties; Use of Irrigation Water on Farm Crops; Grading of Eggs According to the Canadian Standards. These can be secured on application to the King's Printer, Ottawa.

Three new departments will be set up by the Public Ownership League of the U.S.A., it was decided at the national conference held this fall. These will deal with legal, technical and railroad matters respectively, and will give expert advice and assistance to members.

And Chuck of Chuckawalla dropped in yesterday to inform us that some chaps are so modest they even conceal their humility.

PARADOX

A paradox quite, I confess it—
'Tis usual at this Christmastide;
You undress a turkey to dress it,
And stuff the dressing inside.
—T. Bone, Calgary.

A Merry Christmas Everybody!

Their this year's Christmas shopping.
(Dick Harrison in "Border Cities Star")

Jack and Jill went up the hill
Though why they went seems funny—
When they came back
She still had Jack,
But Jackie had no money.

Last month the *Albertan* columnist printed the following rhyme, and as it carried no credit line he apparently expected his readers to believe it was his own brain wave:

Jack and Jill went up the hill
At sixty miles or better.
A cop unkind
Was right behind—
They're seeking bail by letter.

Maybe this pinching of other guy's stuff and ideas is the *Albertan's* unique interpretation of "the freedom of the press." However, genuine journalists have a nasty name for it.

We wonder what would happen to "In the Wake of the News," if all the jokers and versifiers whose stuff he "borrows" without acknowledgement were to quit?

YOU BETCHA, MAC!

Dear Musty: It's about time a lot of politicians got wise to the fact that what this country needs is more clothes and less line. Hoping you are the same.
—M. Mack.

"Give Stockings this Christmas"—advertising slogan. And why not? Charity always did cover a multitude of shins.

Once upon a time, says Fern of Fernie, the good died young, but nowadays the young dye good.

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

Communication from Mister Gloom declares that money is so tight this Christmas that a lot of us won't get the chance to be.

According to Cynical Gus a man is as old as he acts; a woman as old as she talks.

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?
Nowadays a profit is honored in any old country.

AUTO EPITAPHS

At 5 a.m. with several girls
And lots of booze, they say,
A big black block loomed up ahead
Right in Bill Miggin's way,
And now all that remains of Bill
Lies buried 'neath this clay.
—Knotty Frankie.

CFAC, Calgary, will take to the air Christmas morning at 8 o'clock with "Toast and Marmalade" all wrapped up in appropriate Yuletide trimmings, and carry through the day with special programs lined up to add to the festivity of the day. Along with these local presentations, there will be carried all special CBC Christmas releases.

Featured on CFAC's Christmas holiday run is "The Family Tree," a novel program bringing into the homes of radio listeners, an abundance of Christmas music, novelty numbers, vocals and humor, each being presented as another tinsel wrapped gift taken from the figurative "Family Tree." Raymond Knight fills the role of Master of Ceremonies, and brings to the microphone such well-known stars as Fields & Hall, famed hill-billies; George Hall with his orchestra, Senator Fishface, The Buccaneers, Dreamers Trio, and many others . . . artists prominent in the NBC Thesaurus transcription service who feature in CFAC's regular programs throughout the year. "The Family Tree" heavy with gifts, will commence its presentations at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, Christmas Day.

Those exponents of real hill-billy numbers, Fields & Hall Mountaineers, grace again the Christmas schedule, this time in "The Home Folks Frolic," heard Friday at 1:15 p.m. Originators of hill-billy music, Fields & Hall entertain in a top-ranking fashion with their mountain music, accordion, violin, jews-harp and cornet playin'. Friendly, human, is their program, swinging over the rolling range to the home fireside for just a touch of philosophy and a bit of easy humor. All and all, a jamboree of music-playin' and song-singin' that is consistently striking a warm note of welcome on every hand! CFAC, daily except Saturday, 1:15 p.m.

—Adv.

Not only faulty diet but physical defects, lack of home control, over-fatigue and faulty health habits caused malnutrition in children, said Dr. E. B. Roach, child specialist, to a teachers' convention in Calgary.

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R	E	E	D	S	K	I	L	L	K	I	S	S		
O	D	J	E	E	B	P	S							
L	B	O	A	R	S	U	L	T	A	N	A			
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I	C	I	C	L	E	S	P	O	S	T				
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COMING EVENTS

THE STONEY PLAIN U.F.A. PROVINCIAL Convention will be held at Gainford on Saturday, January 9th, at 11 a.m. J. W. Lee, Secretary.

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NAPOLEON AND UNCLE ELBY By Clifford McBride



King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth



Taking the title of King George VI, Albert Frederick Arthur George, second son of the late King George V, on Thursday, December 10th, became King of Great Britain and Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the sea, and Emperor of India, upon the abdication of King Edward VIII, his

elder brother. His wife, formerly the Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, daughter of the Scottish Earl of Strathmore, becomes Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth. Their Majesties' elder daughter, Princess Elizabeth, is the heir to the throne.

Foam-Laden Firemen Try New Fire Killer



Demonstrating the newest departure in fire fighting, firemen of Sheffield used chemical foam and successfully put out every fire started, but when they were through they rivalled the best in snowmen. Above, tipped with gas masks, they are shown cleaning up the rivers of foam,



Co-operators Erect New Warehouse



Serving 130 co-operative stores in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Northern Michigan, the "Central Co-operative Wholesale" recently opened its first branch warehouse (above), in Virginia, Minnesota.

